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JOHN BULL

Vol. X. No. 242. SATURDAY. JANUARY 21. 1911. ONE PENNY.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page ii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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FURNITURE and ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, comprising 50 rooms, almost new.—The NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.). AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS, and ESTATE AGENTS, offer the goods below for immediate SALE, PRIVATELY, WITHOUT ANY RESERVE, just removed from the Aigburth Mansions, Brixton; Avondale Avenue, Finchley; Paignton, Devonshire; Queen's Club Mansions, Kensington; St. Winifred's Crescent, Muswell Hill; and elsewhere—Most elegant, modern, superior, and antique furniture will be sold, either in the whole or separately, comprising French and Italian bedsteads, with very fine bedding, complete, from 30s.; black and brass bedsteads from 10s. 6d. each; six massive all-square brass bedsteads, £4 12s. 6d.; three fumed oak bedsteads, 22s. each; most unique Sheraton design bedstead, with sweep rail, full size, 55s.; two oxidised silver bedsteads, and several others, too numerous to mention, 35 bedroom suites, exceptionally well finished; five including bedsteads to match; six solid oak bedroom suites, with large wardrobes, £4 12s. 6d.; and two with large bevelled plate-glass doors to wardrobe, £5 2s. 6d.; two most magnificent bedroom suites, with side cheval glasses to dressing chests, £5 15s.; walnut bedroom suite, very massive, £6 15s.; an elegant Sheraton design bedroom suite, £7 10s., another Sheraton design bedroom suite, with large 4ft. wardrobe, 12gns.; an Adams design bedroom suite, £10 15s.; 6ft. solid walnut bedroom suite, £11 11s.; 7ft. solid mahogany bedroom suite, £12 12s.; 6ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, 25gns.; 7ft. inlaid bedroom suite, £65, worth £100; and other suites too numerous to mention, quite worth treble the prices asked; the dining-room furniture consists, amongst other things, of an elaborate antique design dining-room set in black carved oak, consisting of two Elizabethan design arm-chairs, six small chairs to match, a most elegant and massive carved oak sideboard, with bevelled plate-glass back, and most massive extended dining table to match, will be sold for £13 5s. the lot, or separately; this suite alone is worth quite treble the money asked; a very fine fumigated oak dining-room set, consisting of sideboard, overmantel. and suite. 10gns. the lot, or separately; a Chippendale design dining-room set, consisting of 10 Queen Anne chairs, two carving chairs, and two lounge chairs, a most unique buffet side-board, measuring 5ft., and a round cabriole leg dining table, all to match, for the whole set we will accept 19gns., or will sell separately to suit; three fumed oak sideboards, £2 15s. each, six oak chairs and two arm-chairs to match, £3 12s. 6d.; set Queen Anne chairs, £9 9s.; fumigated oak dining-room set, £9 9s.; saddlebag suite, £5 5s.; five overmantels from 12s. 6d.; and several lounge chairs from 14s. 6d.; 10ft. solid mahogany dining table, 5ft. mahogany dining wagon in two parts; also bookcases, a convertible dining-room billiard table, balls, cues, etc.; handsome Louis XIV. ormolu clock set, with female figures of Cupid, 12gns., worth 50; and other articles, including table glass, 2 canteens of Sheffield plate, all too numerous to mention. The drawing-room furniture consists of some magnificent pieces of French furniture, including a quantity of buhl, Louis Seize, Vernis Martin cabinets, bureaus, escritoires, etc.; Louis XIV. cabinet, with bevelled plate back and china cupboard underneath, £4 10s.; small satin-wood boudoir suite, £7 7s.; Chesterfield in silk, 58s.; a most exquisite gilt drawing-room suite, 12gns.; very pretty drawing-room suite, £5 10s.; another drawing-room suite, £6 15s.; also Louis XIV. drawing-room set, consisting of cabinet, all bevelled plates in back, overmantel, settee, 2 easy chairs and 4 small chairs upholstered in a very fine tapestry, £8 10s. the lot. A Vernis Martin panel cabinet, 12gns.; Chesterfield, upholstered in satin £7 7s.; Italian card table, inlaid ivory and satinwood, £4 4s.; a Worcester dessert service, consisting of 18 plates and 6 centre stands, £5 5s.; most magnificent piano, £5 5s.; another piano, 10gns.; and a piano by Collard and Collard, 20gns.; a 7⅓-octave trichord grand pianoforte, in ebonised case, by C. Bechstein; 20 other pianos, all makes, to be sold without any reserve; 150 oil paintings unframed; grandfather's clock in oak case, £5 17s. 6d.; and a very fine chiming grandfather's clock, in Sheraton case, 18gns.; 50 carpets, hardly soiled, from 10s.; some very fine Mirzapore, Turkey, and Oriental carpets to be sold without any reserve, a quantity of electric light fittings; 20 volumes of books; large quantity of silk draperies, gilt mirrors, etc. A miniature brougham and a Parisian victoria; a 14 h.p. motor-car, and another 24 h.p. motor-car; two large motor-coats and a quantity of furs, etc. Country and other buyers should call at once and see these goods. All goods will be delivered in town or country perfectly free of charge, or can be stored till required. The above goods are now on view, and are being sold daily from nine till nine, except Saturday, when we close at seven o'clock, at

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Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published..

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL **of specified date,** bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all work done.

The following claims have been received for the issues of December 3rd and 10th:—

A. L. SMEATON, 15, South Methven Street, Perth, N.B. No. 101,124. December 3rd, 1910.

CORPORAL W. E. RICHARDSON, 107 Co. R.G.A., Fort Efford, Plymouth. No. 1795. December 3rd, 1910.

WALTER STAFFORD, 4, Westbourne Grove, Harpurhey, Manchester. No. 533,054. December 3rd, 1910.

GEORGE STEWART, 17, Greenhill Road, Paisley. No. 84,200. December 10th, 1910.

H. LANCE, 25, Frederick Street, Gray's Inn, W.C. No. 812,743. December 10th, 1910.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of December 24th:—

7200	86268	206789	372853	607979
18761	101633	207159	386671	633821
25043	109777	207781	419903	650760
33000	125226	208034	434287	678887
37507	133933	211685	440144	699312
39706	143782	268816	459630	701418
41473	151256	309646	473997	706663
47058	176056	327042	486671	707285
70633	195830	337753	515706	708406
73349	206054	342067	541356	724206

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED FEBRUARY 11TH (PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 10TH).

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The General Secretary,
93 & 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member of the JOHN BULL LEAGUE, and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

Name .....

Address .....

....

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. X. No. 242. Saturday, January 21st, 1911. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor at 93–94, Long Acre, London, W.C., or the Publisher, at 67, Long Acre, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters

All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LEITER.

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All applications for advertising spaces to be made to Messrs. Odhams Ltd., Advertising Dept., 67, Long Acre, London, W.C.

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Money Orders, etc., to be made payable to Odhams Limited, and forwarded to Publishing Department, Odhams Limited, Long Acre, London, W.C.

TO READERS ABROAD.

JOHN BULL *is on sale at all Bookstalls and Newsagents throughout Great Britain and Ireland and the Continent as follows:—Paris, at the Railway Stations—Nord, Ouest, P.L.M., Orleans, l'Est; the principal Kiosques on the Boulevards, etc.; Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Bookshop, 248, rue de Rivoli; Libraries—Timotei, rue Castiglione; Brentano's, Avenue de l'Opera; Byron, rue Castiglione; Galignani, 224, rue de Rivoli; Anglaise, Avenue Victor Hugo; Charruet, rue d'Isty; Lebeau, Avenue Kleber; F. Tennant Pain, 18, rue Favart, Wholesale and Continental Representative. Railway Bookstalls and principal Libraries at Marseilles, Hyeres, Cannes, St. Raphael, Nice, Beaulieu, Monaco, Monte Carlo, Mentone. It is also obtainable through Messrs. Gordon & Gotch's Agencies in the Colonies.*

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Every Evening at 9, A SINGLE MAN. By Hubert Henry Davies. At 8.30. "Between the Soup and the Savoury." Mat., Weds., Sats., 2.30.

THE PLAYHOUSE. OUR LITTLE CINDERELLA, (matinees only). Every MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY at 2.30 CYRIL MAUDE and MARGERY MAUDE.

The John Bull League.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

GRAND WHIST DRIVE,
LIVERPOOL ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HARDMAN STREET.
TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY, JANUARY 19th).

Commence at 7 p.m.
Tickets (price 1s. 6d.) can be obtained from the Hon. Local Secretary (MR. G. S. HAINES), 48, Woodlands Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, S.

HULL BRANCH.

GRAND SMOKING CONCERT
WILL BE HELD AT
THE WHITE HORSE HOTEL, CARR LANE.
TO-MORROW (FRIDAY, JANUARY 20th).
Doors open at 7.30 p.m. Commence at 8 p.m., prompt. ADMISSION FREE.
First-Class Artistes will appear.

LEEDS BRANCH.

THE MEETING ADVERTISED FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 26th, HAS BEEN POSTPONED owing to the indisposition of the President. Further particulars will be announced later.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

AN APOLOGY.

We owe our readers an apology—for having been ill. For a Member of Parliament, in the present position of affairs, to break down in health is most reprehensible; but for the Editor of a great organ of public opinion to do so is quite unpardonable. We ask to be forgiven—and will do our best not to repeat the offence.

WITHIN THE SHADOWS.

And yet there is much to be learnt in the course of a few weeks' sharp illness. To be just sufficiently ill to discern, even ever so faintly, the outlines of the shadows of the Valley, is a good thing. But to be back again, in the hurly-burly and the battle, is a better one.

THE COMING FIGHT.

And we shall all require our strength in these coming days. For fifty years Party politicians have been gambling with the nation's interests. Our Trade, the education of our children, our Fiscal system, have all been pawns on the political chess-board—bowls aimed at the "Jack" of Office. The year 1911 may decide much. Let us vary the German toast—"To the *year!*"

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

It is rather early to predict. The confident expectation of the Liberals is that the Lords will pass the Parliament Bill, as it stands. We do not agree. We rather think the Lords will die "game." From a Party point of view, they will not miss the importance of bringing the "Guarantees" to light. In other words, Mr. Asquith must be getting together his five hundred peers.

MR. BALFOUR'S DECLARATION.

Assuming we are right in our conjecture—and we are not merely guessing—it may be taken as certain that in the course of the debate on the Address, Mr. Balfour will, on behalf of his Party, declare their intention, whenever they come into Office, of undoing the "Guarantees." Which means that he will create a few more Tory peers, and then pass a Bill to dis-peer all the Veto creations. In such surroundings shall we witness the death throes of the Party system!

THE WILY LAWYERS.

We rather like that story of Messrs. Asquith, Haldane and Birrell meeting on a Scotch mountain and looking out over the kingdoms of the earth and rejoicing at the fact that all the acres in sight were represented at Westminster by English barristers. Oh, for that—etc.

MURDER THE REWARD OF FIDELITY.

We should like five minutes with our whip and those brilliant police officers who could think of no better way of rescuing a dead man from the guardianship of his bulldog than that of poisoning the faithful brute. Did it never occur to them that any chemist, or veterinary surgeon, would have given a narcotic, which could have been placed on a piece of meat? We could better have spared the whole of those men than that splendid hound. Murder as the reward of fidelity! It will be a long time before we shall be able to look a dog in the face without shame.

HYPOCRISY AN EXCUSE FOR THEFT.

"£26,000 stolen to help a mission." And twelve months in the Second Division—the Recorder remarking that "there had often been cases where people who had taken an intense interest in Christian work had become unsound in mind." Of course, the converse of the proposition is nearer the truth. Here was a canting humbug to the very end—for after he had written a confession of thieving, and stated twice that by the time his words were read he would not be alive, the oily, unctuous, calculating scoundrel goes down to Folkestone, places his luggage on the Continental boat—and then bolts to Liverpool! Twelve months in the Second Division! Is he now in the Infirmary, and does he read the Lessons on Sundays?

A GREAT MAN AMONGST US.

England is crying aloud for a Man. And yet we have him with us all the time! From a Vancouver paper just to hand, we learn that the re-election of the "Hon. J. Martin" for East St. Pancras "has given universal gratification," and that the Peers will now "take to tall timber" (*i.e.*, take refuge up a tree)—"*as they did last session, as soon as they discovered that Mr. Martin was bent on their destruction.*" It is added that prior to Mr. Martin's election, the Peers assumed "a defiant and supercilious attitude," but that they are now "anxious and willing to reform." And nobody here knew why it was!

WORMS IN BEEF.

In view of our recent article with reference to worms in Australian beef, our readers will be interested to know that from October 27th to November 26th, 1910, the Medical Officer of Health for the Port of London condemned 6,789 pieces of beef. When we get a Business Government, we shall make arrangements with the Australian authorities to send us only meat fit for human consumption. These worms are in the carcase when shipped, and the consignors know it. Then why do they pay carriage to this country? Is it on the off-chance that we shall not detect the worm?

PROPHETIC.

Here is a nice, non-party, judicial pronouncement, which we found on a card circulated at election time:—"What will happen if the Liberals get into power?

In 3 years there will be:

No Ireland.
No Colonies
No Army.
No Navy.
No Public Houses.
No Beer.
No Tobacco.
No Work.
No Money.
Nothing but FOREIGNERS, CHAPELS, LEMONADE and LIARS."

This is a pleasant look-out, and we are not surprised that the printer withheld his name. We wonder what the author would have to say if he were ever tempted to exaggerate.

BILLIARDS AND THE "CLOTH."

According to the Rev. E. T. Jones, who made the statement in the course of a sermon in Llanelly, "billiards is a hellish game." If he means it is deuced difficult, we agree with him; and if he means they play it in Hades, we don't know; but if he suggests that it is unfit for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Clifford, Mr. Lloyd George, or any other representative Christian, then he is recklessly inaccurate. Billiards, in fact, is the finest indoor game conceived of man. As an exercise in the self-suppression of bad language it has no moral equal—not even excepting golf.

THE NEW PLAYER.

Speaking of billiards, when will the sporting press recognise that in young George Gray there has burst upon the game the greatest genius who ever handled a cue? No trick-player, but just one of those phenomena which every game of skill at times produces—a boy of eighteen who can give our best players half the game and "lose them." Wonderful!

"RISING TO £84."

We take the following advertisement from the *Chemist and Druggist*, which prints it under the heading of "Assistants Wanted":—

> A QUALIFIED Dispenser, or unqualified, with some good experience. English, required, male, not over 30, for Medical Practitioners, partners; South County; salary up to 30s., rising to £84 a year (outdoors).

Salary up to 30s., rising to £84 per annum—outdoors! And this for men who have probably had years of training, costing them anything up to £200. No wonder we sometimes get the wrong mixture.

DARLING ON HALDANE.

Not only are the Archbishops, but also the Judges, coming round to our Business Government idea. How, for instance, does Mr. Haldane like this extract from a recent letter to us?

> I have extracted the following quotation from Mr. Justice Darling's book, "Meditations in the Tea Room" (page 179):—"It may be doubted whether a philosopher ought even to be allowed to vote; but certainly he ought never to be elected by the people to represent them, unless they deliberately wish to forego their share in the government of the country. For I cannot suppose that the multitude will ever guide themselves by any recognised philosopher, or that a philosopher will go by any other rules than the general ones of his favourite system.

Something serious in Justice Darling, after all!

"CAN'T STOP!"

The decision of Mr. Hopkins, the Lambeth magistrate, in the Brixton Hill tramway case may please the officials of the London County Council, but it will certainly please nobody else. Many drivers and conductors are not only careless in regarding the instructions of passengers to pull up at authorised stopping places, but frequently refuse to bring their cars to a standstill when hailed from a stopping place. Mr. L. A. Baker, of Brixton, had complained of this conduct to the County Council, without satisfaction. On the occasion out of which the case arose, Mr. Baker rang the bell "in good time for the car to stop." The driver and conductor rushed the stopping place, however. Mr. Baker then repeatedly pulled the bell, declined to desist, and being told the car would not pull up till the next "Stop," he knocked out the switch and brought the vehicle to a standstill. For this rather violent assertion of public rights he was fined 40s. and costs. But if a fine on the technical legal phrasing of the summons had to be inflicted, it should have been one sufficiently contemptuous to have given the London County Council furiously to think.

THE K.C. AND THE BOOT.

Our hon. and learned friend, Mr. Marshall Hall, appears to have had a narrow escape on the golf links at Sandwich. According to report, a boy was shooting at a boot with a rook rifle, and one of the shots passed between Mr. Hall and his caddie. If this boy intends to make firing at old boots a regular sport, he had better join one of Lord Roberts's rifle clubs; otherwise he will probably be arrested for assembling to create an inquest.

WHO WAS IT?

It is being whispered in Teddington that recently the spiritual head of one of the places of worship severely thrashed a local gentleman who has been a Sunday-school teacher. We only hear the whisper; no information has reached us as to the facts.

THREE CHEERS FOR BLETSOE!

There is no doubt we are getting on. "Two political meetings were held before the election," says the current number of the *Fleversham Rural Deanery Parish Magazine*, "one Radical and one Unionist, and at both of these there were the most excellent good sense and good manners shown, and a genuine desire to get at the truth was evident among all the sensible men in Bletsoe. If only other villages throughout the country would think less of party and more of England's good, what a splendid future would lie before our nation!" These are the words of the rector, the Rev. R. H. Moss, and he merits our congratulations. The spectacle of the men of Bletsoe evincing a genuine desire to get at the truth during a General Election must have been a sight for to see.

ST. GILES'S MISSION.

A subscriber to the St. Giles's Christian Mission, conducted and controlled by Mr. William Wheatley, informs us that it is still impossible to obtain a balance sheet or a list of subscribers from that gentleman. In our opinion all persons who appeal for and receive funds for social and religious work should punctually and scrupulously issue annual accounts. This is a moral obligation, and we should like to see it made a legal one. If Mr. William Wheatley wishes to retain public confidence he must inspire subscribers with confidence in himself; and to this end he can do nothing better than issue a regular balance sheet. A public charity ought to be as clear as crystal in its financial aspects. Once a year at least its directors should be able and willing to throw down their books on the table and say, "There, gentlemen, this is what we have received; this is what we have spent; this is what we have in hand." Why does Mr. Wheatley refuse to do this?

RIOTOUS LIVING.

On an old man appearing before the Epping Guardians recently to request a grant for medical relief, it was revealed that he received 8s. a week, but had to pay this sum to his married daughter for board and lodging. "That is far too much," commented Mr. W. S. Chisendale Marsh, J.P., the chairman; "they are making a profit out of you." The profit seems questionable; at any rate, we should not like to keep Mr. W. S. Chisendale Marsh, J.P., on 1s. and 1½d. a day. By the way, what would it cost the guardians to board and lodge the old gentleman?

KNAPHILL'S NEEDS.

Knaphill people can no longer plead ignorance of the wants of the parish. The *St. John the Baptist Parish Magazine* sets them out in detail. "Some Wants at Holy Trinity," it says. "About £2 weekly to meet current expenses. £100 to clear debt off church building. A few loads of gravel for paths—very urgent. A pram for parochial use—urgently needed."

BOUNTIFUL DOLLS.

We hear a great deal every year about the *Truth* Doll Show and the big sums realised for charities through the generous energy of our contemporary's readers, but Mr. Harry Preston seems to be in a fair way of running it very close. Every Christmas he has a tree with all sorts of presents for his Brighton guests. He has also a fine array of dolls, dressed by members of his family and his many friends and sympathisers. These are put up for auction in his hotel, and this year, after very spirited bidding, the sum of £156 8s. was raised and handed over to the Alexandra Hospital for Children, and the fund for providing winter clothing for the youthful poor. When we are next criticised for our reflections upon the futile character of foreign missions, we shall venture to suggest as an alternative to wasteful subscriptions that generous minded people shall come and spend their Christmas holidays at one of Mr. Preston's hotels and do some practical good by buying beautiful dolls.

THE DESPERADOES AT BAY.

It was rather plucky of two men to keep the Scots Guards—not to mention a thousand policemen—at bay for about seven hours. Naturally, we are all on the side of the police and the Scots Guards. Otherwise we might have been drawing parallels with the Macaulay people who kept a bridge in the days of old. Courage is a very difficult thing to define. If you object to a fighter, you talk of a rat in a trap; if he has your sympathies, you immortalise him in a stanza.

SHOCKING.

Our saintly contemporary, the *Church Times*, waxeth wroth with a certain Manchester rector, who so far forgot himself the other day as to solemnise a wedding in a Methodist chapel, assisted by two Methodist preachers, and vested in the full glory of his canonicals. "We regard such conduct as silly and futile in the extreme," snarls the *Church Times*. It may be silly to get married, or to encourage others in such folly; but we sincerely trust that in this instance it will not prove futile. Our holy contemporary goes on to say, "If the idea of the rector in question is that this sort of fraternising brings Methodists and Churchmen together, we believe that it has the contrary effect." As we have reason to suppose that the two parties to the nuptial contract are of the Nonconformist and Church of England persuasions, respectively, it is more than likely that "this sort of fraternising" *will* have the effect of bringing Methodism and Anglicanism close together

NOW, MR. HORNE.

We have not the smallest objection to the Rev. Silvester Horne, M.P., advertising us in any paper he pleases, but when he writes of us in his own journal, the *London Signal*, and the *British Congregationalist* he might at least pay the readers of those periodicals the compliment of telling the truth. "A paper in Grimsby," says Mr. Horne, "started the slander that I had publicly stated that God would never forgive Grimsby if Tom Wing were not returned. This disgraceful perversion of my words was taken up by JOHN BULL—which ignored my letter of repudiation—and was then printed in not very scrupulous papers in all parts of the kingdom." We did not ignore Mr. Horne's letter of repudiation. On the contrary, we dealt with it in "John Bull's Letter Bag" in our issue of December 17th as follows:—"The Rev. Silvester Horne and Mr. J. H. Wilkinson, J.P., both deny that in supporting Mr. Tom Wing they used the language attributed to them by a local paper, and which we quoted. We are glad to hear it." We wonder whether the rev. and hon. member will now apologise to *us*? Just as he likes.

FROM DORSET.

From a Dorset reader:—"Dorset is a benighted county. In proof of this, it is sufficient to state that some of the police have the audacity to be Liberals. But, thank goodness, they have to walk more delicately than Agag, for there are Eyes upon them—magisterial Eyes. Some of these Eyes were watching one of these audacious constables on polling-day in a Dorset town and rushed to the police-station to report that he had been seen entering a Radical committee room. Instead of suspending him, his superior officer tamely let him deny the crime. Shortly afterwards the owner of the Magisterial Eyes strolled into the station again, to mention casually that it was a mistake. The withdrawal was not accepted with good grace, for last January the same administrator of justice made a similar charge and as casually withdrew it. In a neighbouring village a constable had to appear before the county authorities for the heinous crime of not raising his hand to his helmet when he met a local land-steward."

FROM CORNWALL.

And this from Cornwall:—"The Cornwall Local Education Authority has been congratulating itself upon spending less per head on elementary education than any other county, but the salaries' scale shows that the elementary teachers contribute most of the amount saved. And they have other cause for dissatisfaction. A day's leave, for example, granted by the local managers, is usually followed by the loss of a day's salary. No civil servant, no clerk, no household drudge is so treated. And here is another point. Last summer, in the last week of his holiday, Mr. W. E. Williams, the head master of the Wesleyan School, Kilkhampton, all but lost his life in trying to save his son and another from drowning. He was so done up by his heroic exertions that his local manager extended his holiday for a week, and the Royal Humane Society granting him its certificate; but the Cornwall Local Education Authority issued an instruction that as his summer holidays were extended by a week his Christmas holiday must be shortened to a similar extent." Perhaps our correspondent, or the Education Authority, will tell us what the teacher is to do, pending the return of the children to school?

MORE CONVERTS.

It is difficult nowadays to take up any paper without finding some reference to the necessity for a Business Government. Here is the comment of the *Fruit Grower and Florist* upon a complaint from one of its readers:

> The reply to the above letter is summed up, we believe, in the growing necessity for a business government for this country. There can be no adequate safeguard against fraud in connection with business arrangements until a drastic amendment of the law is made, and this will not be made while our parliamentarians are messing about with Tariff Reform and Home Rule and the like.

And here is the sedate *Medical Times* saying that "like the editor of JOHN BULL we long for a Business Government," although adding that to make such a Government ideal, a contingent of medical men is desirable!

HOLY-*head*?

Having increased the rates, the Town Council of Holyhead in North Wales have decided to protect the morals of the inhabitants. To this beneficent end, they have prohibited the sale of Sunday newspapers; and now miserable sinners who prefer papers printed on Saturdays will have to go elsewhere if they wi h to obtain them. Conscientious, religious-minded folk who would rather read newspapers printed on Sunday will still find them on sale at all respectable agencies in Holyhead early on Monday mornings.

A FUNNY IDEA OF GOD.

Sympathy makes friends; and that is probably why some people who see the lash of our whip swishing about cant, humbug and hypocrisy accuse us of attacking religion. We never attack religion; we do attack, and we shall continue to attack, its professors when their practice does not agree with their professions and when the doctrines they preach insult and outrage not only the name but even the thought of God. "God's in His heaven; All's right with the world," cried Browning in his splendid faith. Put beside it the crushing terrorism of God as conceived by the Rev. W. P. Cromie, vicar of Harlesden. A few weeks ago he preached in his parish church from the well-known text of Matthew xxv. 34, a sermon on the Willesden railway disaster. "The terrible railway disaster, in which God had spoken in trumpet tones," he said, "reminded them forcibly that He was still striving with them," and he went on to elaborate this theory of a God designing railway collisions for the destruction of human life by speaking of what he saw at the graveside of the mourners. "Strong men not only wept," he said, "but those who made no definite profession of religion, realising that they heard the flapping of the wings of the angel of death, uncovered their heads and knelt with him in prayer."

NO CATASTROPHIC GOD.

Is this sort of thing religion? Is this the Gospel of Love? Is this the Gospel of Galilee? There is not a particle of religion in it. We must take it from the Harlesden parson in charge of souls, that God so loves the world that He uses His creatures to destroy their fellows by railway accidents, colliery explosions, and similar catastrophes! Is not it wicked, is not it blasphemous, to put into the minds of men and women who go to church for the comfort and counsels of religion the conception of a world governed by so ferocious a Deity? And this is a teacher of religion, a minister of the Church, preaching in his own pulpit to his own people! We tell the Rev. Mr. Cromie, vicar of Harlesden, that his doctrine of God speaking in preventible disasters is a lie. If Christianity is true—if that unmatched Gospel preached and practised by the Galilean lake is true—then it must be a lie. There is no room and no warrant for a catastrophic God in Christianity; and let us add, for the Rev. Mr. Cromie's further thought, there is no room and no warrant for one in human intelligence. Now then, let somebody tell us we are attacking religion in saying this. Supposing the rev. gentleman himself makes a start?

A "FLAPPER" PARSON.

To pass to another matter—and it is one which we should impose as the conclusive test of a cultivated literary sense—Mr. Cromie speaks of the angel of death "flapping" his wings. Now this phrase about the angel of death, as it rang out in Mr. Bright's great speech on the Crimean War, was exquisite and awe-compelling. As the Rev. Mr. Cromie repeats it, it sounds commonplace and almost vulgar. "The angel of death," said Bright, "has been abroad throughout the land. We can almost hear the beating of his wings." And the story goes that Cobden, congratulating Bright after the magnificent oration was over, particularly singled out that passage for comment. "Do you know," he said "I was trembling lest you should spoil it by a word; I am so glad you didn't say *flapping*."

THE "LITTLE BLUE."

We are glad that someone has been drawing attention to the absence of pneumatic postal facilities in London. It costs quite a large sum of money to send an express letter from one end of the metropolis to the other, whereas in Paris, a "little blue" envelope can go any distance for 3d., or in Berlin for 3½d. Oh, for a Business Post Office!

"UNDER ANY OTHER NAME"—AS NASTY!

Thanks partly, perhaps, to our revelations, advertisements of massage establishments have become decidedly scarce. But the organisers of debauchery are not easily discouraged when the authorities wink at their proceedings, and we find the same persons popping up under fresh guises, some of which are decidedly ingenious. "French conversation" is a favourite pretext, and there are also vendors of "art needlework" and "slumberwear," evidently a polite phrase for pyjamas. "A French patent" and the teaching of stage deportment also arouse our curiosity. Before very long we may suddenly feel a temptation to extend our inquiries in these directions.

ALIEN WAITERS.

A Brighton waiter out of a berth says the English waiter has no chance with English hotel managers against foreigners. "Why?" he asks. "I venture to say it is not because he is the worse waiter. Why not get a good strong Aliens' Act or tax English employers?" We fear our correspondent is of a revengeful spirit. He evidently wants to shut up all the fashionable London hotels.

"PLAIN WORDS TO THE PREMIER."

Under this title, we shall have something to say to Mr. Asquith before Parliament meets. He is, at present, the most perplexed man in the country. Standing head and shoulders above his colleagues, he is confronted with the most difficult task which has ever fallen to the lot of a Statesman. We shall do our little best to help him.

THIS WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

IRATE LADY TO HER TRUSTEE: "You invested my money in Consols when they were at 110; they are now at 80!"

TRUSTEE: "My dear lady, that is a matter upon which you should congratulate me, because your income remains stationary, and when you die, think of the amount that you will save in death duties!"

CABINET CHANGES.

WINSTON AS HEAD OF THE POLICE.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

AGE.—Biscuits are not given to general servants "a to zy," or to veterans of 8 years of age. The ages of the former are often inscrutable, while the latter may be enjoying their second childhood.

PATENT MEDICINES.—We do not give biscuits to patent medicine vendors for the injunction to the public to get "the same pills as Mr. Robinson had."

BRIDEGROOMS.—No more wedding cake for these harmless, necessary adjuncts when they go away "in a costume of rose vieux, trimmed with glace, with hat to match." They evidently foresee who is destined to wear the breeches, and they are lucky to get away at all.

MARRIAGES IN THE DEATHS' COLUMN.—No biscuits for these. They are often the grave of love.

LODGERS.—No biscuits for widows who want young men to share room. Most of them do

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For stating: "*You can imagine how trying it was to parents to have to know that the minds of the* INNOCENT SOLDIERS *were being contaminated by listening to the conversations of their* DRUNKEN CHILDREN,"

THE ROYAL ARMY TEMPERANCE JOURNAL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a certain society "grants plots of land to men (rent free) who are partially employed, also those who are EMPLOYED THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN, *enabling them to cultivate it to their own advantage,"*

THE WANDSWORTH BOROUGH NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating: "Here were to be seen a number of warders SILENTLY DISCUSSING *the terrible event they had just witnessed,"*

THE CORK WEEKLY EXAMINER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating: "Soon a terrific storm broke, accompanied by CRASHES *of lightning,"*

THE DAILY EXPRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, "I commence this letter with the firm intention of saying nothing about the election, for the excellent reason that there is nothing to say. HAVING SAID IT, *I will go on to the other matter which has occupied our attention,"*

THE EGYPTIAN OBSERVER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising "Left in taxicab in St. James's Street a travelling clock in OLD LEATHER CASE, WHICH TOOK A GENTLEMAN TO ARTHUR'S CLUB,"

THE EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Feathered World," "LAYING *cockerels, from 5s.,"*

"L."
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a portion of a presentation took the shape of "a replica of a portrait to hang in the minister's SALARY,"

THE BIRMINGHAM DAILY MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that the Government majority in the House of Commons had been reduced by one, "by Mr. Bottomley GOING OVER TO THE CONSERVATIVES *since his election as a Liberal,"*

THE BERKS AND OXON ADVERTISER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing as a news item on January 9th, 1911, *a photograph of the King of Spain listening to a woman's petition—the two last-named journals describing the affair as having happened "the other day" and "a few weeks since," respectively—the identical photograph having appeared in the "Rapid Review" so long ago as June,* 1905.

THE DAILY MAIL,
THE DAILY NEWS and
THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an account of a burglary, "The booty taken away amounted to about £5 in cash and a BLANK *cheque for £5 4s.,"*

THE ABERDEEN EVENING EXPRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

BEWARE OF THE MORMONS!—I.

ARE THEY HOME-WRECKERS AND DECOYERS OF YOUNG GIRLS?

Our Special Commissioner's Enquiries At Liverpool.

What may be described as "Religious Warfare" has broken out in Liverpool, and it may soon spread throughout Great Britain. It is a war of the Churches against the teachings of the Mormons, or Latter-Day Saints. The first "general engagement" was held in Hope Hall, on January 8th. The hall was packed to suffocation. The Rev. Daniel H. C. Bartlett presided, and he was supported on the platform by a score of local clergymen and ministers, amongst whom were Archdeacon Madden and Canon Irving.

The Bishop of Liverpool, who was unable to be present, wrote:—"The more the eyes of the English public are opened to the real character of this extraordinary imposture, the less likely are its agents to delude the ignorant and unbalanced among our people."

Mr. W. Rutherford, M.P., who was also prevented from attending, wrote:—"It is a dreadful thing to think that young girls are being enticed away from England to Utah by these unprincipled people, whose so-called religion is a delusion and a fraud."

Now such pronouncements from responsible people are worthy of note, and we despatched our Special Commissioner to Liverpool, which is the headquarters of the Mormon Mission to this country, to make full enquiries into the situation.

Incidentally, we may mention that he is a man of no strong religious prejudices, and may be trusted to form an honest and fair judgment. Here is his report:

OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

Yes, war has set in against the teachings of the Latter-Day Saints. It is peculiar warfare, because all the fighting is carried on by one side. The Mormons seem to be unmoved by the attack, and continue their work as though nothing whatever were happening.

I called upon the Commander-in-Chief of the attacking army, but found that he was away in Bristol. His curate, Mr. Hayward, in the absence of his chief, declined to say anything whatever upon the matter, but referred me to the Rev. W. M. Barrow, Vicar of Christ Church. Here, again, I met with a gentleman who declined to make any statement concerning the enemy, although he occupied a seat on the platform when the general attack opened. To be just, however, I must mention that he lent me several pamphlets written by the Rev. Mr. Bartlett, with which I may deal later. He also referred me to another rev. member of the attacking army, and as he also refused to speak upon the matter unless I kept his name from publication, I am unable to give it. Certainly, they are a very nervous set of warriors! Here, however, is the summary of his indictment:—"The Mormons are monsters and their teachings should be stopped by legislation. The choicest girls of Liverpool are falling a prey to their immoral propaganda. Girls are being decoyed, parents and homes ruined. Mormon canvassers, good-looking and persuasive of manner, interview womenfolk in suburban houses while the males are away at work. Such a pretty picture is painted of Salt Lake City by these vile impostors that weak-minded women cannot resist them. They lie with impunity, for while they do not preach polygamy openly, they practise it and advocate it in their published text-book."

Decoying Young Girls.

He next presented for my perusal the following signed statement:—"This is to certify that on the 15th day of August, 1908, my two daughters, —— 21 and —— 19, did, without my consent and against my wishes and protests, sail from Liverpool *en route* to Utah under the guidance and escort of Mormon elders. In the case of the younger daughter, she was at the time of leaving not quite 19 years of age, and on my forbidding her to leave home without my consent, the Mormons took her to their solicitors to ascertain if I could legally detain her, and on being informed that I had no control over her, she immediately took steps to leave home, and shortly after went to reside with the Mormons. The whole matter was a great grief to me, and it was a sickening and heartrending sorrow to their mother to see our daughters entrapped and led astray by these people, and our happy home broken. (Dated December 29th, 1910)."

I duly noted that this testimony bore the date of the opening of the anti-Mormon campaign, although the incident happened in 1908, and I determined to make further enquiries as to its genuineness.

Then another declaration was shown to me. It read as follows:—"Some time ago the agents of the Mormon Church persuaded my daughter, against my wishes and entreaties, to join their organisation in Liverpool. As soon as she joined the Mormons, she lost all interest in me and our home, as well as in her employment, so much so that her employer was obliged to dismiss her. Finally, the Mormons persuaded her to go away from home and live with friends. Shortly after that an 'Elder' persuaded her to go to Utah. (Dated January 4th, 1911)."

Going back to the statement that "Liverpool homes were being ruined," I asked him if he could give me the name and address of any home, other than the two quoted, which had been interfered with. He could not, but he handed me a book, entitled "Life in Mormonism," by Hans P. Freece. It is a book published in New York, in the form of a series of letters from the father of Mr. Freece, who was a Mormon.

Life At Salt Lake City.

I confess, if the life amongst the Mormons in Salt Lake City is a tenth part as bad as that exposed to view in this book, then the Latter-Day Saints should be wiped off the face of the earth.

Here is the sort of life that Mr. Freece would have us believe the Mormons live. I quote from a letter on polygamy:—"In Utah a rush was made for desirable wives. Old men married young girls, trading their young daughters to one another. It was the crowning joy of a great privilege for the true believers. The duty and importance of polygamy was presented Sunday after Sunday. It was the main theme of discourse. Hundreds of girls, thirteen and fourteen years of age, were persuaded or forced into it. Girls not yet in their teens were sealed to old reprobates with an agreement with the latter that they should wait until the children should be old enough to act as wives. Events occurred which would seem incredible to-day had we not lived and acted ourselves in those days. If I am not mistaken, a very recent President of the Church was married to a fourteen-year-old girl just before he died.

"One man married a woman, her daughter and her mother—*three* generations. Some men even took their own daughters as 'spiritual wives.' So many marriages, formed so loosely, naturally resulted in much divorce. Consequently many women were married and remarried again and again to different men. Girls were married and divorced many times, thus going the rounds of the priests."

(To be continued.)

THE ISLINGTON GUARDIANS AND A STOKER.

AN APPEAL TO "JOHN BULL."

Mr. W. Garfield, of 121, Shepperton Road, N., and 14 Mess H.M.S. *Indomitable* (Stoker), appeals to us in the following circumstances. Garfield's wife became ill and had to go into St. Mary's, Islington, Infirmary, taking one little child with her. The remaining child she placed with friends, paying them 5s. per week. Garfield received a letter from the Guardians asking him how much he could pay for the support of his wife and child. He thought the matter out, and offered £1 per month. He answered a lot of questions on a form sent him by the Guardians and explained his financial position very clearly. This is how he stands:—

Pay for month, £3.	£	s.	d.
One child in care at 5s. weekly	1	1	8
Rent of room to keep home together, 5s. 6d.	1	3	10
Paid to Guardians per month	1	0	0
Mess fees about	0	10	0
Clothes and sundries (got to go short) ..	0	0	0
	£3	15	6

Or 15s. 6d. per month more than his pay; but Garfield explains that he earns a little money mending clothes and boots, or any odd job for the single men. Otherwise he could not have offered the £1 a month.

We should have thought his explanation would have satisfied the Guardians that Garfield was doing his best. Instead, he received the following letter from one Yeoman, Collector to the Guardians:—

Re Your Wife and Child.

I have to apply to you for £1 per month, payable in advance, for the maintenance of the above while chargeable to the Guardians. Please send me a Postal Order for the first £1 by return.

I am also to ask you whether you can increase your offer to £1 5s. per month, as the Guardians think you are able to pay that amount.

It would be interesting to know how the Guardians arrived at that opinion in face of Garfield's statement of his position as given above. And note the demand for payment in *advance*. Suppose the wife came out before the month expired? Would the Guardians refund? We doubt it.

Garfield sent the £1 and came up to see his wife. He also saw the Collector who, he says, treated him as if he were a hooligan trying to cheat the Guardians. We leave comment to your readers, but certainly think that the case, following, as it does, the one dealt with in our issue of January 7th—in which we described the cold-blooded action of the St. Mary's Guardians in refusing a returned convict, now leading an honest life, information regarding his children, "adopted" during his imprisonment—demads investigation.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

January 19th.—AUGUSTINE BIRRELL.

Of your success as Irish Secretary
Opinions, I am bound to mention, vary.
Some think you've been too weak, and some too strong;
Others declare you've held the post too long.
These views I'll not discuss, but merely say—
I wish you well on this your natal day!

January 20th.—RICHARD LE GALLIENNE.

How you pronounce your name I've no idea;
Whether le Gally-en or Gally-enny;
So, if my rhymes offend your poet's ear,
Remember, I am only one of many.
I am no William Watson, to be fought
About "A Woman with a Serpent's Tongue,"
If in my verses, therefore, there is aught
That may affront you, bid me to be hung!
My purpose, none the less, I will pursue,
Which is, to wish long life and health for you.

January 20th.—OSWALD STOLL.

May you enjoy the best of life
And never know satiety—
But needless 'tis
To wish *you* this—
Who has so much "variety"!

THE LONDON FINE ART COMPANY.

A "PRIZE" AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

By A VICTIM.

Some months ago this company published in a weekly ladies' fashion paper a competition, in the shape of a diagram containing a number of small squares, and offered prizes amounting to £100 to competitors who counted the correct number of these squares. My daughter, age 14, sent a solution, and in due course received a circular stating that she was entitled to the first prize of £50, or a share of it with other successful competitors. The circular continued: "In addition to the above-mentioned prize we intend to give away a certain number of Handsome Lever Watches (Lady's or Gent.'s) *Free*, to winners like yourself; and you may be elected to receive one." A further offer was made on the same circular to "send absolutely free a dainty 18-ct. Gold simulation Pencil, or an extremely neat Gold 18-ct. simulation Lucky Charm Ring," on condition that the competitor would sell or use 24 pictorial postcards, for which 2s. 2d. was to be remitted. I consented to this, and the postcards were received.

My daughter then had another circular saying: "We are pleased to inform you that your prize is a superior action gold simulation guaranteed watch. All we ask you to do is to send 8s. 11d. for one of our best 18-ct. gold simulation Alberts or long guard to wear with the watch." I happened at the time to be away, and the 8s. 11d. was sent, but when I afterwards saw the watch and guard, I sent them back and asked for the return of the money. The articles were, however, again sent to me, and I returned them a second time, telling the company I could not allow my daughter to wear such things, and eventually the money was returned, less postage. The conclusion is perhaps more instructive. The result of the distribution of the original prize money, the share of the first prize £50, was to be notified on December 23rd. After waiting till about December 30th, my daughter wrote for the result, simply out of curiosity. In reply, she received a printed slip bearing a halfpenny stamp as the prize, and stating: "We are sorry it is such a small amount, but we did not expect such a great number of correct answers." This was dated December 22nd, and stated that the list of successful competitors could be seen at the company's office within seven days, but the slip was not received till January 3rd. Of course, the number required to reduce the shares to a halfpenny each is 24,000! I enclose all the correspondence, that you may form your own opinion of such a method of trading."

We have read the correspondence, which bears out our correspondent's statement.

A TUNBRIDGE WELLS CASE.

THE REV. C. E. STORY REPLIES TO OUR OPEN LETTER.

Apropos of our recent Open Letter to the Rev. C. E. Story, of Christ Church Vicarage, Tunbridge Wells, we have received a reply from the rev. gentleman in which he says that he did not attend the Court with any idea of addressing the Bench, but simply to interview the young man who had got into trouble. He did not offer voluntary evidence, but being asked in Court if he cared to say a few words to the magistrates, he stated that he had known the young man for some years, but he did not state that he "believed it was his first offence." It was his first appearance before the Bench. The rev. gentleman adds that "it would have been far pleasanter to plead for the lightest possible penalty or none at all. The case, however, was not one that, in my view and that of others best acquainted with it, would be as much helped by dismissal with a caution as by somewhat greater severity. I had no doubt but that a certain amount of discipline would be good for him." In fact, Mr. Story adds that he "happened really to care for the man in the dock, and therefore acted as he did." We can only say that in our view it was a case of dissembling his love.

"Workhouse Babies"—The muddle of the Poor Law. Read what MRS. BULL has to say about this in her next week's issue.

"THE MORALS OF BIRMINGHAM."

A LETTER FROM THE OLD HAG.

Up to the time of going to press, the police have not moved against the woman Luckman who kept the notorious house in Buckingham Street, at which children have been debauched. We are well acquainted with the reason, and it is generally understood in the city.

We have, however, received the following characteristic letter from the woman herself—which shows the spirit in which she takes our exposure of her vile den :—

THE HAG'S REPLY.

I have read with interest your delightful notice in this week's JOHN BULL, regarding myself and my curiosity shop. It is almost the Abode of Love over again. At the moment of writing I do not quite know whether to thank you for showering greatness on me or to be very vexed with you. I know you like to tell naughty tales. When you came to Birmingham last season you were a great success, especially when you narrated those funny goings on at the country house party when the guests retired for the night. Of course, if you are only trying to increase the circulation of your paper, then your motives are to be admired. I know of a great many of my friends who have bought a copy of your Society journal this week who never bought it before.

If you were trying to be spiteful when you described your visit to me in my dishabille, then I must say that you do not play cricket.

I did not think you were in earnest about the white slaves. Did you really want them? You must have gone away in a bad temper and decided to damage poor old Unionistic Birmingham in the eyes of the world. And so you draped an innocent conversation in nasty vulgar colours.

Now, Horatio, I do not like you for this. I begin to think you are not the dear old gentleman you would have us believe. It was mean of you to hint to your readers that I had not my false teeth in when I was speaking to you. I am afraid that you are a sly fox, and won't publish this reply. If you don't, I shall have it printed and posted up in my curiosity shop.

A serious answer surely! Especially when it is remembered that we charged the woman with not only keeping a brothel, but with being a procuress of children also.

Here is another little document that probably Mrs. Luckman had not imagination enough to suppose could be in our possession. It is a sworn declaration :—

A GIRL'S SWORN STATEMENT.

I solemnly and sincerely declare as follows :—When I was 15 years of age I used to go out walking with other girls from Hockley. We became known to Mrs. Cooper, better recognised by the name of Luckman. She kept the Old Curiosity Shop in Buckingham Street, Birmingham. She spoke to me, and enticed me into her house. (The next dozen lines are unprintable, but they describe her drugging, outrage, and subsequent downfall.) I stopped in her house close upon two months. One day I went out and met my mother in New Street Station. She caught hold of me and took me home.

It may be asked, why did not the mother prosecute? We can give no answer. Possibly, however, it was the fear of publicity. It may be too late to prosecute now. But are there any other children whom this old hag has in her clutches at the present moment?

A WORD WITH THE POLICE.

When we are sure of our facts we, therefore, do not mince matters. Here, and now, we charge the police with having allowed this beast to carry on her nefarious traffic for years. We go further, and suggest to the Watch Committee that *a full enquiry should at once be instituted*. We shall watch their attitude with interest.

"MRS. BULL."

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY. PRICE ONE PENNY.

MARYLEBONE BAILIFFS.

THE JUDGE'S REPLY AND OUR REJOINDER.

In our issue of December 31st we said that many tradesmen in the Paddington district complain that they cannot get their summonses properly served by the bailiffs of the Marylebone County Court, and we gave one specific instance of how a bailiff neglected to do his duty. It seemed to us to point to a very rotten state of things. In our issue of January 7th we published complaints from other tradesmen in the district, who entirely confirmed the statements of our first correspondent, and we also published a letter from the High Bailiff, Mr. J. Swinford Frances, which we received just as we were going to press, and which we said we would comment upon in the present issue.

Mr. Frances informed us that on Wednesday, January 4th, the County Court Judge, Sir W. L. Selfe held an enquiry, and after hearing our first correspondent, told him "it was a pity he should have made an inaccurate statement" to us and exonerated the officials of the Court from all blame in the matter. We regret that we are unable to accept Sir W. L. Selfe's investigation as in any way exhaustive, or his conclusion as in any way justified by the facts.

We have before us various other letters similar in substance to the complaint we have already published, and it is not necessary for us to accumulate evidence as to what Praed Street tradesmen think about the action of Marylebone bailiffs. We will deal with the case which induced us in the first instance to comment upon this matter. Sir W. L. Selfe did not institute a searching enquiry. We do not wish to be discourteous to him, but we must say it was a farcical enquiry. The complainant was only allowed to put one witness in the box when the Judge stopped the enquiry by saying he would not hear any more evidence, that it was a very unfortunate affair, and that he did not like hearing a case that had been in print. Was there ever a more absurd comment made by a Judge? Are we to understand that when some grievance within his jurisdiction is brought to light by the Press, Judge Selfe is unwilling to enquire into it simply because the Press has taken the matter up? Not only did Judge Selfe refuse to hear the complainant's witness, he instructed the Registrar to see that he left the Court, an altogether unwarrantable direction. The High Bailiff told us the Judge exonerated his bailiffs from all blame in the matter. That is what may be expected of a Judge who conducts an enquiry in the way we have described.

Let us submit for Judge Selfe's consideration a few dates. Our correspondent first complained to us that he could not get the bailiffs to execute a summons taken out on April 4th. On June 14th, judgment was obtained. On October 3rd, a committal order was granted. It was not until January 3rd that the person against whom the summons was granted was arrested. Now, our article dealing with the matter appeared in the issue of December 31st... We do not think it stretching the long arm of coincidence too far to take it for granted that if that article had not appeared the man would not have been arrested. Not only was the man arrested but immediately upon his arrest he paid the money that was due. The plaintiff writes to us to say that at the time of his arrest the bailiffs actually held two warrants against the debtor, "but only used mine because I had forced their hand. The other poor plaintiff has had to whistle for his money, and yet the bailiff could have re-arrested him after the enquiry on the 4th inst." Does Sir W. L. Selfe think this proper? The whole business is an unpleasant one, and we much regret that Sir W. L. Selfe in his endeavour to shield officers of his Court should have shut his eyes to the evidence. We find room for an extract from one of the letters to which we referred above, which we respectfully commend to the attention of Sir W. L. Selfe :—

> I was a tradesman in Praed Street all my life until recently, and, my trade being a credit one, needless to say I always had a considerable amount of money outstanding. I summoned one of my customers and eventually obtained a Committal Order against him, but from that day to this, which is now too late, the committal was never served on him, although the man was always in town, and as a matter of fact the bailiff who should have taken him was frequently seen in his company.

The complainant's name is at the service of Sir W. L. Selfe if he would like to have it.

BRITISH POLICE IN CEYLON.

AN APPEAL TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Only five months ago, with a great flourish of trumpets, twenty-six sergeants, selected from the police forces of our principal cities (such as Edinburgh, Manchester, Newcastle and Leicester), with very bright prospects dangled before their eyes, left to do great things in Ceylon. Upon their arrival, much fuss was made of them, but it was too good to last. The heads of the Ceylon force gradually ceased to appreciate the fact that they were dealing with Englishmen, and came to regard the new arrivals as natives—treating them in that high-handed and autocratic way which is too often the white official's comportment towards his dark subordinates.

A sergeant who took the initiative in protesting against a series of "pin-pricks" and annoyances has been imprisoned for insubordination, two others have deserted, and eight tendered two months' notice of resignation. The latter were thereupon called before the Inspector-General, who handed them a paper in which they were asked whether they were discontented, whether they intended to desert, or whether they wished to give notice. The sergeants frankly answered the first and third of these questions in the affirmative. The Inspector-General, with almost incredible meanness, then turned upon them and said that their resignations were accepted, ordering them to leave at once, with pay up to date only. Most of the men had naturally relied upon saving out of the two months' additional pay, to which they were entitled, sufficient to enable them to return home. However, although they were in sore straits, they managed, aided in some cases by members of the white community who sympathised with them, to raise sufficient to leave the Island—they were quite unable to remain and sue in the courts for their rights.

Now, the sergeants complain—evidently with truth—that, as their long service in this country had put them well on the road to their pensions, to say nothing of promotion, they would never have thrown away this security for their old age but for positive assurance that they would considerably improve their status by going to Ceylon. But, as a matter of fact, their position was little better than that of the native constables.

Indignation upon the matter is very strong in the Island and the papers have spoken out very pluckily—in this country one can have no idea of the influence the Government can, and does, bring to bear upon these organs of public opinion.

The sergeants who have been so scurvily treated—and who include the officer who was selected for the honourable but onerous post of accompanying the German Crown Prince during the Ceylon portion of his recent tour—are the pick of a body of men who are the envy of the world, and we confidently look to the Colonial Secretary to see that justice is done to them.

PENDING ELECTION PETITIONS.

SHOULD THE CHALLENGED M.P.'S SIT?

We have received the following letter:—

> In your last issue, writing of "Reformatory Scandals," you say, "There is no other department in the public service where the head of it, charged with gross misconduct, would be permitted to remain in office whilst the charges against him were being enquired into." Has it ever occurred to you that this is precisely what happens to every M.P. whose election is the subject of a petition? Take, for instance, the most notorious of recent years, the E. Dorset, of January last, which was not heard till May. During that time Captain Guest retained office and voted for the Budget and other Government measures, to be unseated in May. Is it not time the Corrupt Practices (Elections) Act was amended by a clause precluding an elected candidate from taking his seat or voting till after petition was heard? There are no less than eleven petitions this time, which may take, as before, months to decide, and result in several bye-elections. Will you give your readers the benefit of your opinion on the matter?

There is something to be said, perhaps a good deal, for our correspondent's suggestion that men should not be allowed to sit and vote in the House of Commons who cannot point to an uncontested title to the representation of their constituences. Our remark, of course, applied to the Civil Service, and Members of Parliament are still something more than paid servants of the State.

A YOUTHFUL FATHER.

FOOLISH BOY AND SILLY MAGISTRATE.

A correspondent tells us of the trouble that has befallen him through the youthful folly of his son. This lad came home from a public school at Christmas, 1908, aged 15½ years. The following June (1909) his father articled him to a solicitor, and as he is only a schoolmaster; to do this meant a great sacrifice. Three months after, the servant, a young woman of 22, appeared to be in trouble, and, on being questioned, accused our correspondent's son of being the cause of her position. Our correspondent gave her a month's wages and sent her off, and thrashed his son with a dog-whip.

In April, 1910, a son was born to this woman in Wandsworth Workhouse, and on November 23 last the boy had to appear as defendant upon a bastardy summons.

It then appeared that the woman had had dealings with a soldier and a barman, and was all the time engaged to a baker.

Mr. Paul Taylor, in summing up, said the woman was evidently a bad lot, and had led the boy on. He felt sorry for the boy and his parents, but there was a child, and he made an order for 3s. 6d. per week and 4 guineas costs.

As the boy only gets 2s. weekly pocket-money, and no salary, it is a matter of impossibility for him to pay this.

He was summoned to appear at the South Western Police Court last Monday week before Mr. John de Grey, who said he could not alter the ruling of his brother magistrate, and without considering the position of the boy he sentenced him to three weeks' imprisonment.

The father considers this a scandalous miscarriage of justice. "This boy," he writes, "will be haled before a magistrate periodically and sentenced like a felon unless I pay. What do you think of it? The next case to come on was that in which a constable arrested a driver that morning for working a horse whose shoulders and withers were covered with sores. He was fined 10s."

What do we think of it? We think it is deeply to be deplored that magistrates do not exercise a wiser discretion.

THE L.C.C. AND ARMORIAL BEARINGS.

Referring to our recent comments upon the action of the London County Council in the matter of armorial bearings, Mr. Martin-Hertz tells us of a most discreditable trick played upon him by a County Council official, who called at his house and remarked that his name did not appear on the list of persons holding establishment and motor-car licences. He thus describes the conversation:—

> Did I keep a motor-car?—No. Well, how many menservants did I employ?—None. "Well, I notice a signet ring on your finger, Mr. Martin-Hertz. May I inquire whether that is your crest, and if so, are you aware that you are liable to a fine not exceeding £20?" I expressed surprise. After being catechised for half an hour as to whether my wife or other members of my family used armorial bearings, my visitor produced from his pocket-book the heading cut from a sheet of my notepaper, and asked me whether I recognised it. He had, he stated, seen the heading in a stationer's shop in the Upper Richmond Road, Putney, and had at once secured it. He proceeded to inform me that the L.C.C. always liked to compromise these cases. I refused to compromise. What next?

LIFEBOATS AND PASSENGERS.

With reference to our recent remarks upon the condition of many of the lifeboats upon which ships have to rely for the safety of their passengers and crew in case of having to abandon the vessel, and the condition of the gear for lowering these boats into the sea, a correspondent writes to us to say that he has just finished a seven weeks' voyage in a steamer, during which time she broke down three times. Her fore peak was leaky, for more than a year her boats had never been hoisted out of their chocks, during which time they received several coats of paint which practically transformed them into permanent fixtures, and the weekly boat drills consisted, as recorded, of the mustering of the ship's crew on the boat deck, and, following it, an immediate dispersion.

"MRS. BULL."

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY. PRICE ONE PENNY.

THE DUBLIN POLICE.

OUR SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR REPORTS.

SIR JOHN ROSS-OF-BLADENSBURG.

The charges against the Dublin Metropolitan Police contained in one of our December issues appeared to us to be sufficiently important to justify us in despatching a Special Investigator to Dublin to make independent inquiries. He has furnished the following report:—

The article which led to my despatch to the capital of Ireland set out some of the charges against the chiefs of the Dublin Police Force; but in the short space at his disposal the writer could not tell the whole story. I have spent a fortnight investigating, and in addition to upholding everything already written, I can supply some additional facts.

To begin with the police force itself. Before Sir John Ross assumed command, the corps was one of the finest in the world, and was implicitly trusted by the citizens. The officers obtained promotion after stiff examination, and Messrs. Mallon and Jones, the supreme chiefs, were jealous of the efficiency of the force, and also keen in preventing anything being done by any member of it that would be unjust to the citizens. Soon after Sir John Ross-of-Bladensburg got command, this was altered. The intelligence brought out by competitive examination was placed at a discount, and the examinations as such were discontinued, promotions since then being given apparently to the man who makes most cases. Then followed the famous order from headquarters that each man should have so many cases to his credit per month, and the more recent instruction issued by Chief Superintendent Whittaker on the same lines. Result: the citizens regard the police force no longer as a body for the protection of the people, but as a machine under orders to make crime at any price, which leaves few people safe.

CATCHING AT STRAWS.

The constables, in striving after the "efficiency" ordered by the chiefs, catch at any straw. Hence the man who has imbibed too much, but is perfectly well able to look after himself, is run in, and the host of poor women who eke out a miserable existence by hawking fish, vegetables, and other necessaries in baskets are constantly hunted and summoned. Police vigilance in the latter direction a few weeks ago drew from the Guardians of the South Dublin Union a resolution of protest, which has been sent to the Chief Secretary and the Members of Parliament who represent Dublin, and was reproduced in our last issue.

THE HARRYING OF PUBLICANS.

Everything is fish that comes to the Dublin policeman's net, and the constables are backed up by the police magistrates. But the publicans are the chief butt of the officers acting under instructions from headquarters. The principal sufferers are the traders in the F Division, which stretches about seven miles through the South County Dublin. Since two officers were transferred to this division, the publicans have been harried Sunday after Sunday for alleged contravention of the Bonâ Fide Travellers' Act. To such an extent has the official heel been pressed on the traders and the customers, who are told by an Act of Parliament that they may have refreshment after hours under certain conditions, that along the whole seven miles every public-house is now closed after five o'clock on Sundays. Thus the Act passed by Parliament has been over-ridden and nullified by the police authorities, who hold that their powers are greater than those of Parliament.

A SENSIBLE MAGISTRATE—AND ANOTHER.

The magistrates, I have said, back up the police; but I must make one exception. In a recent case where a publican was prosecuted, Mr. Drury, who was on the Bench, dismissed the charge, after having lectured the officers for having brought forward a case that was unjust and should not have been heard of, and expressed his determination to give ten guineas costs against the police if the publican's solicitor could show that he had the power to do so. The police solicitor asked to have the case held over pending the decision of another magistrate in another case; but Mr. Drury indignantly refused, saying he yielded to no brother magistrate in his knowledge of law. Two days afterwards a second trader was brought up before another cadi, on a precisely similar charge, with weaker evidence, if anything, and was fined £2. Another magistrate, Mr. Swifte, decided against a publican because, he said, he had looked up the almanack and discovered that there was no moon on the occasion when a number of respectable men called at a public-house for refreshment. He admitted that they were well within the statute as regarded the distance travelled, but there being no moon he could not believe that they were out in the suburbs for pleasure, and they and the publican were mulcted accordingly!

The constables themselves are not always to be relied upon when giving evidence. One rough-and-ready officer when asked recently how he counted the men who passed into a public-house, told the magistrate that he tied a knot on his bootlace for each, and when five had gone in he untied the knots and began over again! A Kingstown trader a short time ago was so ground down by the police that he decided to sell out, and the day after the auction he died of grief, his death being laid by the local people at the door of the force.

PARLIAMENT DEFIED.

Now every public-house between Dublin and Dalkey has, as I have said, given up the *bona fide* traveller business, and the Act of Parliament is a dead letter. This phase of the determination of the police to carry out Sir John Ross-of-Bladenburg's wishes is regarded as an outrage by the citizens, and a public meeting is to assemble to denounce the action of the Grand Duke of Dublin Castle and his force of cossacks. A knot of Members of Parliament will be on the platform, and the matter will be brought before the House soon after it assembles. The police themselves are not in love with the duties they are knouted into performing. In fact, all through the force there is marked discontent, and one Division is in a state bordering upon open mutiny owing to the hectoring of a Superintendent and Inspector. The former obtained three days' leave at Christmas, and was supposed to have gone to the country for a holiday. But it was only a ruse. On Boxing Day he surprised every station by dropping in to see if there was any slackness, but found none—no doubt to his chagrin. It was in this Division that two constables who went for a walk one Sunday after Divine Service were heavily punished for "breaking their rest."

A WARNING.

About twenty years ago there was a serious police strike in Dublin, and Sir John Ross may take it that there will be a greater one with more urgent cause, if matters in the department are not mended. The mutterings of to-day will swell into a roar to-morrow.

MUSIC-HALL RIBALDRY.

We are very glad to hear that theatrical managers are beginning to realise that their houses are no more suitable for the expression of political opinions than the pulpits of churches. Of course, the general sentiment of the music-hall or pantomime audience, drawn from the leisured classes, is Tory, and a large proportion will be delighted by gibes at Lloyd George or cheap jokes at the expense of the Home Secretary. But even Radicals have their moments of expansion, and sometimes go to places of entertainment. Why should their pleasure be marred by a shock to their convictions, and by personalities which they are justified in regarding as rude and vulgar? Of course, most of the songs in French music-halls are full of astounding personalities, even the President of the Republic being held up to savage ridicule. But the French have been accustomed to mockery for generations, while we, fortunately or unfortunately, have not yet learnt to distinguish between humour and bad humour. After all, there are plenty of other topics besides politics over which we may make merry.

NATIONAL CASH REGISTER COMPANY.

LIBEL ACTION DROPPED, ON EVE OF TRIAL, AND NEW ACTION COMMENCED.

Just as the action for libel brought against us by the National Cash Register Company was coming on for trial, it has been abandoned—the Company paying our costs, *and commencing a fresh action against us in respect of some of the same and certain other alleged libels.* We must not make any comment upon the matters involved in the new action; but we hope it is not Contempt of Court to express our surprise that if we have libelled the Company, they should not have made us pay for it by bringing the first action to trial, and then proceeding against us in a fresh action in regard to any other libels.

PROMISCUOUS CHARITY.

SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE C.O.S.'S WARNINGS.

The Charity Organisation Society inspires a great deal of hostility, and, at the same time, probably does a great deal of good. It is somewhat antiquated in its methods, because it believes in self-reliance rather than State help; in investigation, rather than indiscriminate charity. We do not at all desire to run it down, but we cannot help confessing that we have been considerably amused by the "Cautionary Card" issued for the guidance of subscribers. As some of the statements made about professional beggars might easily be regarded as a libel upon those industrious persons, we suppress names. But we cannot forbear from quoting a few of the characteristic descriptions:

Here, for instance, is X. Y. Z., George, alias A. B. C. and D. E. F., musician and vocalist. "Usually found in a state of exhaustion in the street or on the doorstep." The compiler of this Black List must certainly have a great sense of humour, or, at any rate, a literary gift, for this polite explanation of bibulous habits is so concise and precise, that we are almost persuaded that we must, sometime or other, have made the acquaintance of the importunate gentleman.

Then there is a solicitous person who "uses pious language in his letters, pleads varicose veins, ulcerated leg, or accident to hand, sends pawn tickets for tools and offer of work." All that, with the lubrication of pious language, ought to be almost irresistible.

Another "appeals in the Agony column of the daily Press under the heading of 'Despair,' and 'Despondent,' 'Orphan,' etc." And we are told, in a footnote, that "the public are cautioned against giving money, without enquiry, in response to piteous advertisements in the Agony columns of the newspaper over such titles as 'Orphan,' 'Hope,' 'Despair,' etc." Of course, we have watched these Agony column advertisements with considerable interest for a long time. We have been surprised by the impudence of briefless barristers, derelict parsons and other obvious failures, who either ask for loans at 10 per cent. or gifts to set them on their legs and give them a fresh start. The beggar outside the confectioner's shop is sometimes run in by the police when he opens a hungry mouth and whines for pence; but the financier who expends 5s. or 6s. on an advertisement in a morning paper to expose his woes, is left unmolested and often attracts substantial sums of money.

The fact is, nine people out of ten have charitable instincts which they do not know how to gratify. We heard of a country gentleman whose house was incessantly besieged by all sorts of humbugs and professional beggars. He never stopped to investigate their cases, but merely told his housekeeper to give them 5s. The result was that, after a time, the word went round, and professional beggars multiplied so rapidly that he had to limit his largesse and dole out £5 or £10 a week to the housekeeper, and say: "Give everybody 5s. until this is exhausted and then say that there is nothing available until next week." That is the kind of indiscriminate charity which makes the philanthropists unhappy, for it is encouraging rottenness and cadging at the expense of the deserving.

Others who do not possess country houses and housekeepers are evidently attracted by advertisements in the newspapers. They read a piteous tale of someone who is starving or on the brink of suicide, and they send cheques or postal orders, and flatter themselves that they are doing good. We came across a gentleman the other day who quite prided himself upon having sent £30 to save some advertiser from suicide. We also came across an old fool who responded to an appeal with a succession of £5 notes, and, when he lost interest in the case, was rewarded by blackmailing letters suggesting that his contributions must have been sent for some evil object, and that, unless a substantial sum was immediately forthcoming, all his letters would be sent straight away to his wife!

Here is another nice description in this Back List:

So-and-so, "of various names, places and occupations, from waiter to salmon fly-dresser, appeals to Scotch gentlemen." Now, if there were ever anybody to whom we should only appeal in the direst stress of misery, assuming, of course, that we were wrong 'uns, it would be a Scottish gentleman, for the Scots have a character for shrewdness and, in our most imaginative moments as salmon fly-dressers, we should be reluctant to insist upon our capacity for imposing upon them. But here is a rascal who, with the whole world at his feet, deliberately goes out of his way to make money by appealing to Scotch gentlemen. We hope he waxes fat, for his pluck deserves to succeed.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXXV.

A LADY'S DESPERATE POSITION

We have received the following letter from an unmarried lady, and we are satisfied that her statements are true. If any of our readers can help this lady, who for obvious reasons does not wish her name and address published, we shall be most happy to place him or her in communication with the writer of the Document. She writes:—

> I write to tell you how those who are in *real need* and *distress* and apply to so-called "charity societies" are treated. I have been placed in *extremely poor* circumstances, through no fault of my own, being unfortunately compelled to sell everything I possessed for food and lodging, and at last in desperation I wrote to certain prominent persons, and in consequence, received a letter from the "Charity Organisation Society," Sutherland Place, Bayswater, asking me to call, as they understood I required help. I did so, and after answering innumerable questions, many of them most unnecessary, and having given references, they told me to call on a "Miss Lefroy," Imperial Institute, with reference to going out to Canada. I was given 5s. for expenses, etc., and having called twice before I could see Miss Lefroy I then saw her, answered again many questions and filled in a paper. A few days later a lady belonging to this society called at my lodgings and saw my very small room, and remarked that I had little comfort. She then took down in a book further details, and said my case would be brought before the *committee*, the result being that I received, a week later, a letter saying my case was not one for charity. All this happened just before Christmas. If I could in any way hear of any light employment, so that I could help myself out of my present *terrible* position, I should be extremely grateful.

We have received, and duly remitted, the following to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CXVIII.—G. W., 3s. 6d.

CXX.—"Anonymous," parcel of clothing.

CXXI.—"Nemo," safely received and remitted.

CXXIII.—J. C., 1s.; W. Y. M., 5s.; "Jessica," 2s. 6d.; S. S. R., 3s. 6d.; S., 1s.; K. and G., 1s.; "Yorkshireman," 2s. 6d.; E. H., 1s.; "A Sympathiser," 2s. 6d.; "Edward," 2s. 6d.

CXXIV.—"A Reader," 2s. 6d.; J. G., 2s. 6d.; J. J. J., 1s. 6d.; E. and A., 1s.; "Honest Freemason," 5s.; H. F. H., parcel of boy's clothing; "One Who Has Work," 5s.

THE PROPAGATION OF GARRULITY.

A REDUNDANT BODY.

We have received a letter from a member of the Committee of the Public Speaking Club of Great Britain, which is run under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association. He wants us to encourage all and sundry to co-operate. But we are inclined to think that there is already far too much public speaking in this country. Wherever two or three are gathered together, they begin to propose toasts and say silly things about "the ladies," or put up imbeciles to respond for "the guests." They have nothing to say and they usually say it very badly. Of course, if they could be taught to say nothing very cleverly and pungently, the club would have our best wishes as a missionary enterprise.

If people must make speeches, as we fear they must, what a happy condition it would be if they could be persuaded to avoid drivel. But is the Young Men's Christian Association precisely the body to supply unimaginative people with imagination, dullards with brilliancy, and idots with brains? Of course, we would gladly give our eye-balls for the privilege, with a licence for mockery, of attending a course of this Club and witnessing the instruction in oratory "story-telling, salesmanship, parliamentary debating, toasting, and the like." "The like" ought to be specially edifying. But surely the Young Men's Christian Association ought not, in its own interests, to be responsible for toasts which, in spite of the thoughtful pronouncement of the late King Edward, are not always drunk in water.

Our correspondent concludes: "As you are aware, the Public Speaking Club of Great Britain is not run for profit, and it is conducted under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A." We were aware of nothing of the kind, never having heard of the Public Speaking Club of Great Britain; but we confess to a certain amazement at the information that philanthropy for once is being run on philanthropic lines. Is not the title of the Club another injustice to Ireland, although she certainly needs no instruction either in public speaking or story-telling?

BOOMING THE ANARCHISTS.

HOW *NOT* TO EXTIRPATE THE EVIL.

By Dr. Ch. H. Leibbrand.

Let us beware of legislation in a panic. Laws made in haste are generally repented at leisure. Above all, let us beware of cant. The vast majority of aliens resident in this country are as law-abiding as the average native citizens. They are neither better nor worse. It is illogical, indeed absurd, to accuse them of criminal tendencies because of the proportionately insignificant number of criminals amongst them. One might just as well accuse the English people of lawless proclivities because of the desperate outrages and attempted murders of policemen committed a few weeks ago by the Welsh coal-miners then on strike.

John Bull ought to focus his mind's eye upon these actualities. It will prevent him from having another attack of hysteria; he has of late been rather too prone to this somewhat feminine weakness.

John Bull has become great and mighty through his stolidity of temperament, steadiness of character and matter-of-fact way of thinking. These qualities he needs at present more than at any time before. He is confronted by a series of far-reaching problems. It is not merely a question of punishment and prevention of crime by a numerically small class of foreign criminals.

The murders in Houndsditch and their sequel in Stepney are certainly most deplorable on account of the loss of three gallant police officers.

But they are much more deplorable on account of the *morale* which these strange events are bound to have upon the populace, unless piloted to their logical conclusion in a *business-like manner*. As it is, too great an importance is attached to them. This is not the psychological moment for a fundamental change in Britain's policy towards, or rather against, the alien element within her territory.

The Besetting Sin.

Vanity is frequently the besetting sin of dangerous criminals; the admiration of the confraternity of crime is flattering unction to their distorted minds. Herostratus set the temple of Diana at Ephesus on fire through mad vanity. And vanity is the arch-besetting sin of the evildoers recruited from the ranks of Anarchists. Their outrages are mostly the outcome of a frenzy of vanity. This apprehension and actual terror at present, these alarums and excursions only play up to the vainglory of Anarchist desperadoes. The respect for the mighty arm of the law is not strengthened by a demonstration in force of over a thousand policemen, firemen and Guardsmen, with machine and field guns, for the capture of two miscreants, however savage they may have been. And the sensational capital which the Press is making out of these murderers and their startling end, unquestionably offers a premium to other Anarchists to repeat, if not to outdo, the misdeeds of those two outlaws. The death of the Martyrs is said to have been the seed of the Church. In like manner, every sensational retribution meted out to Anarchists has always proved a stronger call to them for the commitment of fresh, and more shocking, crimes.

Of course, measures to prevent, if possible, any repetition of the Houndsditch murders and their Stepney sequel will have to be taken. There is a cancer festering in our midst. Its ruthless removal from the body politic is imperative. But it will have to be done calmly—deliberately—comprehensively; not spasmodically, and from fear.

It is not merely a question of preventing undesirable aliens from taking residence in this country. It is not a question of the registration of aliens. It is not a question of the prohibition of carrying fire-arms. For, I say it advisedly, there are as many, if not more, native Anarchists in England as there are foreign Anarchists. The evil lies deeper-rooted.

Anarchism a Creed.

The fact is:

Anarchism is a "Creed"—a mad "Creed," yes; but for all that, a "Creed." Upon its banner is painted in blood, "Destruction for the lust of Destruction." It is based upon logical formulas, relentless in their conclusion. It is a "Creed" that makes fanatics.

The Proudhons, the Max Stirners, the Marrs and the Bakunins raised a semi-scientific system of sociological and political philosophy that made a powerful appeal to the evil propensities in human nature; to greed and egotism, licentiousness and cruelty.

For instance, with Proudhon, the "Sage" of Besançon, "all property was theft." "Law and government were but the tools of society." Its entire destruction, he reasoned, was the only means to rescue mankind from misery and tyranny. Every human being should be free to follow his own inclinations. Universal suffrage he rejected as being a throttling of public conscience. According to him, "Reason meant *man to be subject to nobody*, but to work, to idle, to love, to act just as he pleased." It is true, Proudhon did not directly advocate violence. He, himself, was content to allow his ideals to germinate violent tendencies in others. But he unmistakably suggested the possible necessity of violence. "If the powers that are," he wrote, "do not become wise in their generation, the paving stones will soon fly about and the barricades will rise overnight!"

"Regeneration" Plans.

This doctrine of Proudhon found ready adherents in the philosophising Fatherland. They appealed to the distorted imaginations of a Max Stirner, William Marr and Karl Grun. It was they who developed Proudhon's "regeneration" plans. It was they who advanced them considerably towards practical application. Indeed, they attacked the very foundation of society. They proclaimed marriage to be the origin of all misery and evil.

Still, the era of "Propaganda by Deed" was really started by a Russian.

Michael Bakunin unchained the fiends of Anarchism proper. Government of any kind was in his eyes hateful despotism. Thus, "Away with both to make room for the free association of men!" "Anarchy," he maintained, "was nothing but the annihilation of what at present goes under the name of public order." In his opinion: first, the entire destruction of corrupt society; then chaos were the *conditio sine quâ non* for any possible regeneration of mankind.

This Anarchist "Creed" was reduced soon afterwards to catechistical formulas, so as to render more easy an appeal to the greed, and the passions, and the vice of the proletariat. The work of the people was to be relentless, terrible, total destruction.

The Catechism of Revolution.

Indeed, Sergei Netschajov—also a Russian and a university professor—wrote in his "Catechism of Revolution": "Words have only value when immediately followed by the deed. In doing this deed, poison, dagger, revolver, and bomb—all these means are not only permissible; they are obligatory. Revolution sanctifies every effort made on its behalf without distinction."

A "Creed" such as this requires exceptional treatment. It cannot be combated successfully by Police and Governmental regulations concerning immigration, the carrying of fire-arms, the registration of aliens and so on. These but scotch its limbs. It is *the teachers of the "Creed"* who should be extirpated. It is their publications which should be destroyed. The cunning appeal of Anarchism to the instinct of fanaticism, innate in every human being, should be rendered absolutely impossible. And those who follow this "Creed" at present should be segregated from normally-minded mankind, for Anarchism is undoubtedly a moral and mental disease—people infected with it are incurably mad. It is a madness that is catching. It is full of germs. One of these is vanity. Starve—isolate them, and you will stamp out the disease.

If this is done, society will, indeed, be able to work out its salvation peacefully and successfully, in conformity with the laws of natural evolution.

No Limelight.

However, this must be done quietly, calmly, deliberately, without so much limelight, the blare of trumpets and the roll of drums. Nothing is more harmful to the aim in view that sensationalism such as now runs amuck in the columns of the country's leading newspapers. The hanging of criminals in public was abolished because it not only failed to act as a deterrent, but it actually incited to the commitment of fresh crimes. Yet here, a few common, low-typed murderers are transmitted to posterity in pages upon pages of lurid, sensational, exaggerated reports of their misdeeds, with glaring headlines: "At Bay!" "Their Last Stand!" "Death, in a Flame of Fire!" in the best approved style of melodrama and "penny dreadfuls"! A few obscure, but desperate, burglar-Anarchists are raised to such a height of world-wide publicity that they must inevitably become in the eyes of perverted people veritable heroes worthy of the most strenuous imitation!

This is playing into the hands of the enemy.

THE "POPULAR"

A WORD WITH THE WALTER

The Palladium opened on B
after which a shoal of letters
stating that hundreds of holiday-
in the sleet and rain—getting wet
of securing admission—though, a
seat was booked in advance.
Tozer, the publicity manager, a
The facts were not denied. His
the stress of business, such as
opening nights, the existence o
seats which it was impossible to
overlooked, and that it would
grievances have now been brough
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THE SLAVE

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And the grave is not
Are the earliest words t
To prepare thee and
For the hard time that
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So the System's artful
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If there's any compens
It is time we heard

THE "POPULAR" PALLADIUM.

A WORD WITH THE WALTER GIBBONS MANAGEMENT.

The Palladium opened on Boxing Day, immediately after which a shoal of letters of complaint reached us stating that hundreds of holiday-makers waited for hours in the sleet and rain—getting wet to the skin—in the hope of securing admission—though, as a matter of fact, every seat was booked in advance. We thereupon saw Mr. Tozer, the publicity manager, and asked an explanation. The facts were not denied. His explanation was that, in the stress of business, such as frequently happens on opening nights, the existence of the crowd waiting for seats which it was impossible to supply had been quite overlooked, and that it would not occur again. Other grievances have now been brought to our notice.

In all their advertisements a notification appears that "all seats are bookable." Many of our readers inform us they have made application to book shilling seats, and have failed. The reply of the Palladium, which we have before us in writing, is that no seats are booked under 1s. 6d. We suggest that they should make this point clear in their announcements.

Now a word as regards the programme. We notice that Miss Topsy Sinden, who takes part in "Yuletide Revels," is advertised to introduce her song "The Quaker Maid." We saw the little lady dance, but she certainly did not sing.

Perhaps the Walter Gibbons management will look to these matters, as also into the conduct of the Holborn Empire, upon which we have many times commented.

THE SLAVE TRACK.

"Life is real, life is earnest;
And the grave is not the goal,"
Are the earliest words thou learnest
To prepare thee and console
For the hard time that is coming
In the prison of the years;
For the sickened soul succumbing;
For the pain and grief and tears.

Joy on earth is syndicated—
It is not for you and me.
Through the ages we were mated
To the immobility
Of a Fate that points its finger
To the worn track of the slave;
With the choice for those who linger
Of the prison or the grave.

Ah, that track; the sullen marching
Of the heavy feet and slow!
Ah, the hearts for succour parching,
And the fevered eyes aglow!
Hunger, thirst, with fear for relish;
Death and sin and woman's wail—
Life is real! Life is hellish
On the old, well-trodden trail.

So the System's artful masters,
Pointing vaguely far ahead,
Promise that, for these disasters,
God will square up when we're dead.
"What," they cry, "is pain and trouble
To a mansion in the sky?
Life is just an empty bubble—
There are prizes bye-and-bye!

"Therefore, do not fret and worry.
Just you lead the honest life
(True, at work you want to hurry—
Trade is keener than a knife);
God's beside you in the daytime—
In the darkness and the light—
Man may rob you at the pay-time;
God will one day make it right."

And the slave lines onward stumble
With the load to which they're hitched—
Weeping, cursing, stubborn, humble—
To the graves where they are pitched.
Life is woe—an abdication—
While we groan above the sod;
If there's any compensation
It is time we heard from God!

S. D.

IRRELIGIOUS MINISTERS OF RELIGION.

THEIR INDIFFERENCE TO THE TORTURE OF THE DUMB.

By J. Fraser Hewes.

I would like to tell you of some of my experiences in seeking the aid of the paid and official teachers of morality. I naturally thought I would find in them a *natural ally*, but I have had a rude awakening, for, as I told a local clergyman recently, his church is in league with the devil on the subject of vivisection. This may seem a strong statement, but experience fully justifies it.

Some years ago, before the laboratory on the Chelsea Embankment was opened, I made a point of calling on ministers of religion, thinking in my ignorance that they would be the first to sign the petition asking the Home Secretary to refuse his sanction to a further torture-house being licensed. I did not get one signature from ministers; on the contrary, the only abuse I got was from them! One of them said that it was a doctors' question, and refused to sign it. The other day I gave a lecture in the school-room of a Wesleyan chapel, on a Saturday; as the people came in they bowed their heads as if in prayer. Turning to the secretary sitting at my side, I asked if they were going to open the meeting with prayer. "Yes," and when I told him I was very sorry he looked much surprised.

Two men prayed long and fervently, three hymns were sung, and the Bible was read; and I began to think that perhaps these were really good people, different to the others I had met who acted similarly. I gave some terrible details of what is done in the secrecy of English laboratories, permitted by the hypocritical laws of our own land, details so horrible that ordinary people at other than religious meetings frequently faint at the mere recital of them. When I sat down no one made any remark on the awful nature of the revelations, but the two men who had been so fervent in prayer ignored all the horrors and argued that as man was "higher" than brute beasts we were justified in doing these atrocities, if we could gain any benefit from them! That is the attitude of 95 out of every 100 ministers of religion!!

The clergy of the Church of England absolutely refuse to give me a hearing; and the dissenting ministers at those chapels where I do succeed in booking a lecture are, as a rule, conspicuous by their absence; they have some other engagement, have to close the Sunday school—or send word that they are ill!

I wrote a letter to every minister in Nottingham, offering to lecture (free) or to call upon them and give particulars of what is going on. The only response I had was one of my letters returned with the word "rot" written all over it! I then sent a copy of the letter to the Bishop of the diocese, begging him to call the attention of his clergy to the necessity for taking a stand consistent with their high calling; as my letter was not acknowledged I wrote again. This time the Bishop's chaplain replied that the Bishop wished him to say that he had received my letter, but that he saw no reason for entering into a campaign on the subject at the present time.

I had called two or three times on a neighbouring clergyman who had a reputation for being a "very nice, kind man," but I found that facts about the terrible suffering inflicted on some of the 88,634 animals vivisected in one year made no impression upon him, and when I began to press him for an opinion his true character was disclosed; he was not against experiments, if we could gain any benefit! The last time I called he told me that he had heard one of my lectures, and he thought it was in shocking taste to speak of such cruelties before ladies; his veins swelled in his agitation and indignation. I told him that if he would show as much indignation with the *doers* of wickedness as he manifested at my *exposure* of them I could have excused his attitude towards me.

Another minister said he could not allow me to speak at his place, because they could not spare the time; that if they heard me it would only be fair to hear the other side. My reply was, "There *is no other side* to sin."

It is the same to-day in the fight against cruelty and selfishness as it was in the fight against slavery—the ministers of "the Gospel of Love" are silent, or openly siding with the wrong. Is it any wonder that the people are leaving the churches, and that such "religion" as they find there is treated with contempt?

FIVE HUNDRED A YEAR.

By Richard Morton.

One of the happiest men in the world the other day was Mr. Peter Waster, who had come across an item of news in the daily paper that fired his immortal soul with renewed hope and exultation.

"Look at this, little woman," he cried in glee to his very-much-better-half, "at last a career is open to me, and there is a certain and assured income of five hundred a year for the rest of my natural life."

His wife, who thought the close of his speech sounded like a sentence of penal servitude, only sniffed. She, poor soul, is a pessimist, and small blame to her, for she has long looked on the seamy side of things, not out of preference or sheer perversity, but because the drab side of existence is the one that always presents itself to her.

"Just like you," said Mr. Waster, "always ready to put a damper on any little scheme of mine. You have never once betrayed any enthusiasm over any of my projects for our future welfare. You always scented failure from the start—or before it."

"And I was always right," sighed his little woman. "There's nothing you have made a success of. When I married you, you were in business in the City."

"And after you married me I had to make a composition with my creditors."

"It wasn't my fault. If you had been guided by me—"

"I know, I know," he retorted. "You would have worked wonders, of course. Unfortunately you didn't. So I became a sporting journalist."

"And took to backing horses. But you could never find a winner."

"No, that's true. I discovered it wasn't a paying game, so I made a book. And all my clients were wiser than I was, and they found the winners that I couldn't, and kept me paying till I couldn't pay out any longer. So I retired."

"Retired!" echoed his wife with scornful emphasis. "At the time, if I remember correctly, you called it 'taking the knock.'"

"Well, I took it, anyway. And then I went on the stage. I could always act. I got prizes for elocution at school, and my uncle said the way I recited 'The Cottage was a Thatched One' always drew tears from his eyes."

"Where else would they come from?" commented the lady. "But your uncle was always a sniveller. Anyhow, I don't remember you making anybody cry as an actor, except when you tried to be funny. You didn't get on as an actor, Peter."

"No, I didn't." He was compelled to admit the fact. "I put a hundred pounds into the last play; they cast me as a servant with nothing to say, and the lessee closed the theatre on the second night. My talent was not recognised."

"I'm afraid it never will be." The lady sighed.

"But I tell you my chance has come at last!" He pitched his newspaper on the table. "Members of Parliament are to be paid five hundred a year. Payment of Members at last! It's what I've been waiting for. I'd have gone into Parliament years ago if it hadn't been so dashed expensive. It's my line. It's what I'm cut out for. I can talk, I can spout, I can wheedle people, I've had business experience, foreign experience, and financial experience."

"Indeed you have," his wife admitted.

"And here's the new sphere for my genius that I've longed for. It's my fit, it's my measure. Five hundred a year, and nothing to do but talk. And I needn't even talk—so long as I vote. An M.P. can earn his salary while he is asleep on the back benches. Of course the thing is not actually carried yet, but it's a cert., and all I have to do is to choose my constituency."

"I thought it was some fresh fool's notion of yours," said Mrs. Waster, bitterly.

"Fool's notion!" he shouted. "Do you mean to say that I can't vote—that I can't speak?"

"You can speak loud enough," she said with wifely sarcasm. "But hasn't it struck you that you have to be elected first?"

That certainly put the matter in a new light. But he snapped out, "Anybody can be a candidate."

"You won't get five hundred a year for that," she said.

. . . . And that is just the point that will be brought home to many other aspirants for Parliamentary honours.

POTTED POLITICAL PANTOS.

By "Retlaw."

THE PARLIAMENT BILL; OR DEMOCRACY DECEIVED.

Scene: *The Terrace of the House of Commons at night. A group of* Peers *lurking in the shadow.*

Enter Democracy:

According to her oft-repeated vow
The Liberal Party should be here by now;
To introduce her child, the Veto Bill,
Which, she affirms, will suit the peerage ill.
I'm all agog this prodigy to view
And form my own opinion if 'twill do.

(*Enter* Liberal Party, *leading* Veto Bill *by the hand.*)

Liberal Party:

Here is my child, who, I affirm,
Will make the Lords with anguish squirm.
Bless him, Democracy, I pray,
And he'll be victor in the fray.

Democracy:

Before on him my blessing I bestow
A few particulars I'd like to know—
First, by what methods will your child fulfil
Your pledge to make supreme the people's will?

Liberal Party:

I'll tell you willingly. Suppose
The House of Commons passes
A Bill that's like to tweak the nose
Of the more wealthy classes;
They send it straightway to the peers,
Who read it at a canter,
And, if it wakes their lordly fears,
They kick it out instanter!

Democracy:

So far, I must confess, I fail to see
How this will benefit democracy.

Liberal Party:

Wait half a moment! You must know,
Next session, that same Bill
Up to the peers again will go
To learn their lordly will
If their objections still remain
They'll simply kick it out again!

Democracy:

Once more I'm quite unable to make out
How this will bring the people's will about.

Liberal Party:

Don't be impatient. *If, perchance,*
The Government is still in power,
That Bill they will again advance
Next session, at the proper hour.
Whereon the peers, the same as yore,
Will simply kick it out once more!

Democracy:

I must repeat—I may be dull, 'tis true—
How will this force the people's measure through?

Liberal Party:

Now comes the point. A Bill thus treated,
Viz., *by the peers three times defeated*,
Up to the King it will then be sent,
Just to receive the Crown's assent:
Thus, *in three years, or more*, a Bill
Will give effect to public will!

Democracy (*doubtfully*):

Well, I must bless your chee-ild, I suppose,
But whether it's all right, Heaven only knows!

Chorus of Peers (*dancing in the shadow*):

We soon shall have the *legal right*
To kick a Bill out thrice!
The knowledge fills us with delight!
We'll gladly pay the price.
For, what of old we've done with fear and trembling,
In future we shall do without dissembling!

[Curtain.]

We are informed that on Christmas Day eight children residing in Kidlington, a village in Rutland, went round carol singing and called at the house of the Rev. Percival Smith. When they had done singing he gave four farthings and a chocolate drop for distribution between eight of them. It was a modest donation.

"John Bull" has inspected the originals

of these letters, and hundreds more, equally as convincing—all entirely unsolicited testimonials from Doctors and Nurses. These Doctors and Nurses have either taken Hall's Wine themselves or have seen its marvellous effect on their patients—in many cases they have done both. The proprietors of Hall's Wine desire that these letters shall speak for themselves. Medical etiquette forbids the publication of names of professional people in testimonials, therefore "JOHN BULL" certifies the genuineness of the following medical testimony:—

No. 806.
"I have much pleasure in speaking of the benefit to be derived from Hall's Wine. I consider it one of the best tonics on the market. I recommend it freely in my practice and hear nothing but good results. In cases of Neurasthenia, Debility following Influenza, etc., it works wonders. I shall always go on recommending it. The old people you sent a bottle to, say I am to tell you it was a perfect godsend, and worked miracles."

No. 801.
"I consider Hall's Wine to be a very excellent preparation which must prove efficacious in cases of Cachexy Anæmia, and Constitutional Debility, which are the scourges of modern society. All unstrung temperaments must benefit by the use of your valuable aliment. I recommend it as opportunity offers."

No. 808.
"I have had great faith in Hall's Wine for many years, and in my time have largely recommended it. An old lady in my house, who frequently gets "under the mark," finds a bottle—or two at the most—of Hall's Wine, pulls her together better than the usual tonics—quinine, etc.—she used to take."

No. 805.
"I am pleased to say that my little daughter greatly benefitted by a course of Hall's Wine, which I consider of great value during convalescence. I am about giving it to a patient suffering from Cardiac Syncope. I think he would be benefitted by a judicious trial of your Wine. I can also congratulate you upon the perfect condition in which I have always found Hall's Wine to be."

No. 810.
"After prolonged convalescence following a serious operation, I went through a course of Hall's Wine myself from which I derived so much benefit that I have since prescribed it in every similar case, with gratifying results. Although I am back at my work again, I continue to take Hall's Wine, as I find it an excellent soporific (nightcap). It gives me great pleasure to add my name to the list of medicals of long practice who value your invigorating wine."

No. 770.
"Some years ago I took a bottle of Hall's Wine myself, when I was run down, and found great benefit from it. Since then, members of my family have taken it with most satisfactory results, and I have seen good effects with my patients."

No. 758.
"A great number of times, for several years past, I have recommended Hall's Wine to my patients, and I can remember no case which it failed to benefit."

No. 772.
"I have prescribed Hall's Wine in my practice for many years past, with most excellent results. I have several poor patients who I should like to take the Wine, but they are quite unable to purchase it. Would your firm be prepared to give a few bottles in really deserving cases?"

No. 787.
"I have always found Hall's Wine most useful, especially during convalescence."

No. 803.
"I look upon Hall's Wine as a splendid pick-me-up, and it is a most satisfactory preparation to recommend."

No. 774.
"I find Hall's Wine very good indeed. I was very 'run down' and it quite set me up again. I shall be more than pleased to recommend it to my patients—in fact, I have already done so."

No. 775.
"I have used Hall's Wine myself, and found it useful in many cases."

No. 796.
"I have long recommended Hall's Wine, with satisfactory results, in convalescence."

No. 795.
"I have often prescribed Hall's Wine for my patients, and there is no doubt in my mind about it being an admirable tonic in convalescence after disease."

No. 797.
"You may depend upon my giving Hall's Wine all the help I can in extending its utility in convalescence."

No. 798.
"I am prescribing your Hall's Wine daily. It gives every satisfaction."

No. 799.
"I have personally tested Hall's Wine and find it an excellent tonic and pick-me-up, and I never hesitate to recommend it in suitable cases in my practice."

No. 785.
"I have prescribed Hall's Wine for some years with marked success during convalescence."

No. 786.
"I have given Hall's Wine for some years, in suitable cases, and it is generally very much approved of by my patients."

No. 788.
"I have always found that the results from the use of Hall's Wine are most satisfactory, and I shall most certainly continue to prescribe it."

No. 791.
"I regard Hall's Wine as a very valuable restorative and tonic, and the fact that I prescribe it for myself shows my faith in it."

No. 793.
"I have prescribed Hall's Wine for so many years now that it is unnecessary for me to say that I consider it to be one of the most satisfactory restoratives after serious illness known."

No. 794.
"In every case where I have prescribed Hall's Wine it has given satisfaction."

No. 750.
"I am frequently recommending Hall's Wine in my practice, as I find it suits my patients, especially during the convalescent period after serious illness. The fact that I buy it for my own household is in itself a recommendation."

No. 807.
"I have personally a very good opinion of Hall's Wine, and recommend it in all suitable cases."

No. 811.
"I have been suffering from Sleeplessness and took Hall's Wine with most satisfactory results. I am now prescribing it both for Sleeplessness, and as a pick-me-up."

For the benefit of readers who may not happen to know, be it said that Hall's Wine is remarkable for the rapidity with which it restores both the physical and mental powers. Its action in Neuralgia and Insomnia is frequently immediate. As a restorative and pick-me-up it is described, in the letters we publish, as truly marvellous. After Influenza or any illness there is nothing in the world like Hall's Wine to bring back perfect health.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

By WALTER MOORE.

THE PRINCE OF MONACO.

During a recent visit to Monte Carlo it occurred to me one day, after rather a heavy loss at the tables, that I might combine business with pleasure by interviewing the Prince of Monaco, and thereby earn a couple of guineas for another—and possibly more lucky—plunge on the red.

Behold me, therefore, knocking one morning at the door of the Palace, Monaco, and inquiring whether the Prince would grant me an interview.

His Highness was graciousness itself.

"But you have been unlucky at the tables, is it not?" he cried, as I entered his presence.

(Permit me here to observe that the Prince, in consequence of having originally married a Scotswoman—Lady Mary Douglas-Hamilton, to wit—speaks excellent English.)

"I have dropped a bit," I confessed.

"But you should not come to me!" expostulated Prince Albert. "It is to the officials of the Casino you should appeal. They will give you sufficient to pay your fare to France, so that you do not commit suicide in Monaco, yes!"

"Now, Prince," I asked, "*do* I look like a suicide? I have merely called to have a chat with you about the Constitution you have recently granted to your people, thus making Monaco the smallest and youngest constitutional State in Europe."

"Ah," replied the Prince, expanding his chest, "I am pr-roud to surrender my autocratic rights to the representatives of my people."

"And is it your idea to have what men of light and leading in England are working for—a Business Government?"

"But certainly!" cried Prince Albert. "Remember, my country is 375 acres in extent, with a population of 19,121, kept in awe by an army of 126 men. Only on Business lines could such vast interests be adequately managed and protected."

"I trust you intend to fall in line with the other great European Powers, by introducing in your National Council some sort of Aliens Act to keep out undesirables," I said.

"Only one undesirable do we wish to keep out," declared the Prince. "For the rest, do we not live on them? One million and a quarter aliens visit my dominion each year, and we fleece them all, desirable and undesirable—at least, *nearly* all. Many come with systems to break the Bank. But, as the poet said,

'Their little systems have their day,
They have their day, and cease to be.'"

"I should much like to know who is the individual to whom you prefer not to extend your otherwise all-embracing hospitality," I said.

"I will whisper," returned the Prince. "One never knows where he is. It is the Jim Crow! Ah, what a man! What sarcasm! What cynicism! What bittairness! He will come one day to Monte Carlo, and he will lose his money, and then he will afterwards write in JOHN BULL such an article, so—what you call?—*stinging*, eh?—that the English people, who are the big fools at gambling, will come no more, and my poor people will lose much money."

"No legislation will keep Jim Crow out of Monaco, or any other place, if he has a mind to go," I said. "But to return to a more interesting topic. I see that your Cabinet is to consist of three ministers. Now, if you are short of politicians in Monaco, we have several Cabinet Ministers in England, with whom we would gladly dispense—politicians better fitted to govern a State 375 acres in extent and a population of 19,000, than to control the destinies of the vastest empire the world has ever seen."

"I know whom you mean!" cried Prince Albert. "But they would be useless here. We have no undeveloped land in Monaco, and no ungotten minerals, excepting the gold visitors on rare occasions take away with them. We have no people clamouring for the right to work. It is the right to 'play' that they cherish most, and which my Government is not likely to deny them, ha, ha!"

"Well, good luck to the youngest member of the family of constitutional States," I said, taking my leave.

A little later, on the steps of the Casino, I met Jim Crow!

HOW TO INTERPRET HEADLINES.

SIDE-LIGHTS ON ELECTION NEWS.

By K. H. F.

Now that general elections have came to stay, it seems seasonable to put forward the details of a new and innocent amusement arising from them.

The business of the British Press, as everybody knows, is identical with that of the concave and convex mirrors sometimes to be found outside eating-houses—namely, the distortion of the truth in either of two directions. Unhappily for themselves, however, at general elections the newspapers suffer under one signal disadvantage. They are compelled to give the correct figures of every election in all their hideous nakedness. However the political situation may be represented at any other time, at this one juncture this much of inexorable fact MUST BE STATED.

Of course, the poor newspapers do their best to mitigate this cruel misfortune. They still have the leading articles and the headlines to bar the way (ineffectually, thank Heaven!) to the horrid truth. And here they have the consolation that they may occasionally deceive the hasty man who only just glances at the headlines, or the mean man who relies on placards for his news. And this is where the fun comes in. After a day or two's experience, *very* skilled observers can actually learn to interpret the approximate truth from the headlines.

For example: I have a pile of miscellaneous papers before me, dating from December 2nd to the 11th, the first nine days of the election, at the end of which time neither party had on balance gained a single seat, and throughout which entire period the fortunes of war had never been anything but indecisive. On December 2nd, the day before the first pollings, we have the *Morning Leader's* chief headline "Tory party in full retreat," and that of the *Morning Post* "Tariff Reform triumphant." This is a valuable index of the standard of exaggeration which wil lprobably prevail throughout the election.

Bearing this in mind, I now examine the respective headlines of the same two papers for Monday, December 5th, the day when the first really large batch of results is announced. The *Morning Post* declares "Flowing tide with the Unionists," the *Leader* "London's fine lead in the fight for freedom." To the inexperienced it might seem that the gains and losses had been equally balanced. The old hand and the professional journalist would know better. Their keen eyes would at once light on the telltale word "London." The Liberal organ endeavours to concentrate attention on a particular area. Clearly, therefore, although they have done well locally, they have not triumphed all over the country. One may therefore assume that the Unionists have gained on balance. This proves to be exactly the case. Unionist gains 7, Liberal 4.

Next day we may proceed with more confidence. Unfortunately the only paper I can find for this date—December 6th—is once more the *Morning Leader*, which states right across its front page "Defeat of the peers' party is now assured." With recollections of the January election still fresh in one's memory, this clearly means that the Liberals, although fairly confident of a coalition majority, have been losing again. So they have, but only two more seats.

You might not think that the *Times* would be a good paper to use in this little guessing game. But what do we find that the headline, "Yesterday's *fluctuations*," in its issue of December 7th, means? Why, seven Ministerialist gains and only one Opposition! I know of no circumstances save those of politics in which this sort of a result is termed "fluctuation." Oh, yes, the *Times* is quite as suitable as any other paper, thank you.

Well, I expect everyone understands the game now, so I need not give further illustrations. There is just one lovely example, however, that I should like to wind up with. On December 8th, four Unionist gains were announced, making a net gain of three seats to the Opposition on the whole election. On December 9th, the *Morning Post's* headline is "Unionists still ahead." By how much? I guessed that they had lost two seats on the previous day. As a matter of fact it turned out to be only one. But if they had gained one, or even not lost any, does anybody suppose that the *Morning Post* would have been content with "Unionists still ahead"? Not much!

Sir Edward Clarke, K.C.

and the

Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia.

A Remarkable Test.

Sir Edward Clarke, the famous K.C., has written us a letter of remarkable interest to all readers who have been following our remarks on the "Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia." This is what he says.—

> "Chambers's Encyclopædia" is a work which I have long used and highly valued. I have carefully tested this new edition by taking a volume and reading the articles on every twenty-fifth page, and afterwards turning to the index and selecting for examination a number of articles with the subjects of which I was specially familiar. The examination quite satisfied me that the new edition is entirely trustworthy. Taking into consideration the size and price and the convenient shape of the volumes, I think it is the best encyclopædia I know.

The test Sir Edward adopted is probably the most thorough that any encyclopædia could be put to, and after such evidence we need not say more as to the quality of the "Illustrated Chambers" compared with that of other bulkier and more costly works—particularly as Sir Edward Clarke's letter is only typical of many others received from such men as Mr. Asquith, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, Mr. Haldane, Earl Roberts, Professor A. V. Dicey, and many others equally famous.

How it affects You.

There is one point, however, of great importance. You may be inclined to think that you personally are not concerned in the matter. *You are.* You may not see that you have any need for an encyclopædia. *You have.* You yourself, although you may not realise it at once, have a very definite need for a real work of reference like "Chambers." If, as you ought, you take a real interest in the affairs of the day, you would find such a work of the greatest possible value. Just think for a moment what you do when some point of doubt crops up in your work or your leisure. When you are reading the paper, for instance, you must often come across references which you do not understand. What do you do? What can you do except pass it over and hope to gather from the context some slight idea of what is meant. Is that the way to succeed in a world where the one way to success is information—information about anything and everything that may occur during the course of the day?

What of your Children?

If you have children, your duty is still stronger. Do *they* never want to know things? Do *they* never want information to help them in their school or home work? Think for a moment of the hundreds of ways the "Chambers's Encyclopædia" could have helped you and your children during the past few weeks. Think, for instance, of the recent reports in the papers. The revolution in Portugal, to mention only one. Did you understand all the circumstances and the past incidents referred to in the papers? Did you know all the places mentioned in connection with them? This is one of the smaller ways in which the "Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia" could help you. Read what Sir H. Beerbohm Tree wrote to us the other day:—

> I have always thought that mankind attaches far too much value to the fleeting education of cramming. "Chambers's Encyclopædia" renders this irksome process unnecessary, for it is ever at one's hand as an excellent substitute for memory. I shall sooner lose my memory than "Chambers's Encyclopædia."

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If for this reason alone you ought to have "Chambers," for "Chambers" is the only work that really fulfils this purpose. It is the only work at a moderate price that can be depended on for reliable information on any and every subject. The contributors include over 1,000 of the most famous men of our time, and between them they deal with every detail of human knowedge. Yet you can get the latest edition of the "Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia" for a first payment of 2s. 6d. only, the balance being paid in small monthly instalments.

Three Opinions.

The Right Hon. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., writes: October 20th, 1910:—

"I am desired by Mr. Chamberlain to acknowledge receipt of the latest edition of 'Chambers's Encyclopædia.' He has long had on his shelves a previous edition of this work, and has found it of the greatest use."

LORD CURZON OF KEDLESTON writes on October 18th, 1910:—

"I have always regarded 'Chambers's Encyclopædia' as the most concise, scholarly and useful compendium of universal knowledge anywhere to be found within a similar compass."

HILAIRE BELLOC, Esq., writes, October 20th, 1910:—

"I have much pleasure in saying that an early edition of 'Chambers's Encyclopædia' has been my principal book of reference for the last fifteen years. I have found it much the most accurate of such works, more trustworthy than others upon a somewhat larger scale, and, though this may seem contradictory, more comprehensive. In work such as mine it is constantly put to the test, and I have never found that test to fail."

DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY.

We want to urge you to take advantage of this offer of the Free Book if there is even the smallest possibility of your buying an encyclopædia. For we do not want you to buy another and then have to regret not having first seen the "Illustrated Chambers's." It does not matter whether you want an encyclopædia now, or might possibly want one in a year's time. Send for the Free Book to-day.

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To the CAXTON PUBLISHING CO., Ltd.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Kindly send me free of any charge or obligation your book on the "Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia."

NAME .....
(Send this form or a postcard mentioning JOHN BULL.)

ADDRESS .....

.....

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS, AND TELEGRAMS.

To His Worship the Mayor, High Wycombe, Bucks.

SIR,—I perceive that there has been another distribution of Christmas boxes to the police of your borough. As I have said on a former occasion, the majority of the townspeople subscribe to this most objectionable fund under a sense of pressure. I do not know any other borough in the country where an official would be permitted by a municipal authority to tout among tradesmen, and to take a commission on the collections. Why you, sir, the Mayor, should lend the patronage of your office to this sort of thing I am at a loss to understand. According to the account of the distribution over which you presided, I find that though Mr. Woodard, described to me as "a Clerk of the Borough Bench," personally collected the money for the police, the amount subscribed was only £55 11s., from which had to be deducted £2 18s. paid to that gentleman. Even if no other evidence were forthcoming, it would thus be obvious that the response to the touting lacks enthusiasm.

All the police are in the wretched cadging; not one of them is forgotten — even the Chief Constable is not ashamed, sir, to appear at a public institution and accept the paltry sum of £3 as his share. Having regard to the special and peculiar relationship in which the police stand towards the general body of citizens, I submit it is undesirable that this elaborated system of mendicancy on behalf of the force should continue. If it is thought that the Chief Constable and the sergeants and constables under him are worthy of an additional sum of £50 per annum, the townspeople would probably prefer to provide the money in the form of an increase of wages.

JOHN BULL.

To the Recorder, Quarter Sessions, Preston.

DEAR MR. RECORDER,—I notice that at the recent Quarter Sessions at Preston you sentenced a man named Speak to four months' hard labour for stealing a dead pheasant. For himself, "the man said he was out of work, and did not see how it could be called stealing." Calling the act by whatever name one will, I cannot regard it as one meriting so severe a punishment.

For instance, if I were to ask you, in the manner of the old schoolmen, if a man ought to have four months' hard labour for converting to his own use a dead pheasant, which he finds in a wood, what punishment should he receive for giving two black eyes to his grandmother, I have little doubt you would answer, "7s. 6d. and costs or seven days'; " yet it is beyond reasonable question that it is more wicked to damage a live grandmother than it is to enter a wood and pick up a dead pheasant. Your punishment in Speak's case, Mr. Recorder, like that in so many others under the Game Laws, is flagrantly disproportionate to the offence, and unless there was something which does not appear in the reporter's account before me, it demands instant revision by the Home Secretary.

JOHN BULL.

To Prebendary Palmer, Chairman, Board of Guardians, Thakeham.

MY DEAR PREBENDARY,—It seems your Board has been discussing how vagrants are bathed in the workhouse. I gather that the master is one of the more remarkable economists, as he permits many tramps to wash in water which is "only changed at his discretion." This keeps down the water bill and economises the soap-suds. It also saves time and trouble. As soon as one tramp is out another tramp is able to jump in. There is absolutely no waiting.

It is true that one or two members of the Board took the narrow view that this system of mixing ingredients is a filthy one, but that verbal triviality was conclusively disposed of by your answer that the Guardians could not undertake to bathe all the tramps separately. Besides, the master gave the further assurance that tramps are a very cleanly class of people, so that it is apparently more as a luxury than as a necessity that they are bathed at all. This is quite a new light on the Poor Law, and I will see that Mr. Burns is duly apprised of it.

JOHN BULL.

To "Captain" Brodie, Salvation Army, London.

SIR,—The public have always conceded certain excesses of sensationalism to the Salvation Army, for they have recognised that, but for such methods, it would probably altogether fail in its spiritual appeal to those classes of the population for whom it caters. But if I am to judge by the illustrations in one of the morning papers, for which you appear to have posed, you have added to the excess of sensationalism such a licence of outrage that it surprises me the police have not put an end to your exhibition. The illustrations to which I allude are headed: "Salvation Army Officer Who Wears a Skull and Shroud to Frighten His Hearers." In one of them you are depicted walking along a road at Golder's Green wearing a shroud and a mask representing a skull, and carrying a human skull in your hands; in two others you are shown preaching in the same grotesque make-up on "Voices from the Dead."

Your explanation of this exhibition is that "people forget what they hear but remember what they see," and that your aim is "to frighten them into thinking about death and what follows it." This being your object, I take leave to tell you that in my judgment the police should treat you as they would treat any other person who plays ghost and bogey-man in cemeteries and empty houses with the object of frightening women and children. The harm a crank of your type may do is practically limited only by the scope of your activities, which may scare timid and emotional people not only out of their wits, but out of their lives. I cannot conceive of any justification for so dangerous and so repulsive a spectacle. That your superior officers should sanction it is hardly less amazing to me than that the police should permit it. If ever *I* meet you Golder's Green way, I shall run you off to the crematorium. A night in the oven there would make your mission so much more realistic.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. David Evans, ex-Convict, Knonotwher.

MY DEAR DAVE,—I fear you are a sorry and almost hopeless old dog. But recently we were all thinking of you in sorrow and tears. Somebody had sent you into thirteen years' penal servitude for breaking into a church and robbing the poor box of 2d. My illustrious friends, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary, found you on "the bleak, mist-sodden upland" at Dartmoor in a convict garb, the Chancellor lamented your sad condition, and then it came out that you had spent thirty-three years of your life in gaol. Even so, that last sentence on you looked wicked, and the Home Secretary let you go on condition that you remained in a situation he had found for you as a shepherd at Ruthin.

"You were looking forward to your new life," you said on the day before they let you go; and you started out to redeem the past. Now, after a day's work, you have vanished, and at the time of writing none knows the place of your sojourning. It may be that other churches and other poor boxes have called you to your true vocation: it may be, too, that it will not be long ere you are in the old home on the mist-sodden upland. I am afraid you do not realise how disappointing you are. It is men such as you, David, who almost shipwreck one's faith in the possibility of human redemption. After this, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Churchill, and all of us must give you up, and leave you to gang your ain gait.

JOHN BULL.

P.C. Richardson, City Police, London.

Delighted hear you have been presented silver medal Royal Humane Society for brave attempt rescue man by diving 51 feet Blackfriars Bridge into 8 feet water. Recall you won bronze medal 18 months ago similar act. Strongly recommend you promotion.

BULL.

Sir Oswald Mosley, Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent.

Hear wholemeal bread you are baking is excellent. If it will cure indigestion send sample at once. It will be a slice of luck.

BULL.

Mr. Justice Grantham, Royal Courts of Justice.

Bravo, Judge! If all your judgments were as sound as that on the man Arthur who tried to murder P.C. Haytread, would ask you *not* to resign.

BULL.

HOLDING THE FORT.

(Mr. Balfour's suggestion of a Referendum on Tariff Reform has brought forth a shower of criticism.)

BALFOUR: "GREAT SCOTT! THIS IS AS BAD AS THE STEPNEY BUSINESS!"

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK BRIGHTENING—SHARP ADVANCES IN HOME RAILS, CANADIAN PACIFICS, OIL SHARES AND RHODESIANS.

I have to cut my remarks short to-day, as space is scarce, but I cannot refrain from congratulating my readers who have followed my advice in Home Rails, Canadian Pacifics, Rhodesians, and in Oil shares, upon the handsome profits which they are now reaping, nor is it advisable at all as yet to take these profits, as, barring accidents, a further important advance is a foregone conclusion.

KAFFIRS STRUGGLING TO THE FRONT—THE RISE OF MODDERFONTEINS.

Kaffirs are making a gallant effort to shake off the dulness which has beset them so long, and there certainly is no reason why they should not run hand-in-hand with *Rhodesians*. The latter still have all the world before them, in the shape of their speculative possibilities, while the former have already made their mark as the most consistent gold-producers in the world. Not, by any means, that their race is run yet. The *Modderfontein*, for instance, has a very long "life" before it, and is expected to increase its next half-yearly dividend to 20s. per share. These shares have thereupon risen to 12½, and have been the bright particular feature here of late. *Diamonds* have shown strength, on the increase in prices of the big stones, while those of the smaller stones have been reduced.

FURTHER ADVANCE IN RHODESIAN MINES—A LAND COMPANY TO BE FORMED—FURTHER RISE IN SIGHT.

Events in the Rhodesian market are proceeding apace, and there is great activity, while the great houses and companies are continuing their efforts for the development of the country. Thus, I may mention that Mr. Latilla, one of the directors of the *Rhodesia Exploration Company*, has been visiting Paris in order to arrange for the introduction on the Paris Bourse of a number of shares connected with the company. Then again, steps are being taken for the formation of a large Land Company, which will particularly address itself to the encouragement of emigration, and it is understood that in this matter the *Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia* will co-operate with the *Chartered Company*. In the meantime, *Chartereds* are rising at 1 11-16 —¾, and *Amalgamated Properties* are up at 9s. Those who wish to take a hand in the matter will do well to act at once, as a further sharp rise is looked for. The *Globe and Phœnix* is, according to latest cables, now locating higher values of ore than any hitherto obtained, and these shares have also improved to 2 9-16 ex dividend. Other shares are following suit, notably the *London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Company*, to the shares of which I drew attention last week, and which have now risen to 2¼. As they own an interest in a number of important companies, the shares in which are now advancing, the *London and Rhodesian* will doubtless have a further considerable rise, and this should also be the case with the *Hay Gold Mines*, now quoted 2, their subsidiary company. *Rhodesia Gold Mines and Investment* are firming up at 1 7-16, and *Lonely Reefs* have improved to 3. *Giants* have risen to 4½, and *Falcon Mines* have also hardened at 2½. *Antelope* are now being dealt in in the split shares at 5s. each, and the price is 10s. ex rights, the rights being estimated at 10½d., so that we have here also an improvement. Similarly, *Selukwe Columbia* are also being dealt in in the split shares now of 10s., and the price is 15-16 ex rights. *Thistle Etna* have been a steady market 1½, and *Cam and Motor* are firm at 3-32 premium. The special settlement in *Rhodesia Ex.* will be surmounted this week, when a fresh rise is looked for. One of their sub-companies, the *Eldorado Banket Company*, on the latest favourable advices, and the excellent December return, are up at 3 11-16. In Chartered shares a good many call-options are being bought, and French operators are taking a hand not only in these but also in other Rhodesian shares, so that this additional support is bound to have a strong effect upon prices. In the above remarks I have chiefly mentioned the properties the merits of which I have been able to thoroughly investigate, and which are likely to be in the front of the upward movement. There are, of course, other shares, such as the *Exploring Land and Minerals, Willoughby, Rhodesia Consolidated, Tanganyika, United Rhodesia*, etc., which have also their merits, but which I do not specially recommend, and on no account would I advise my readers to have anything to do with *Selukwe*, which are now quoted about 4s., and are to be turned over to the tributers.

THE OIL SHARE MARKET—SHARP ADVANCE IN SHELL TRANSPORT, AND A GENERAL REVIVAL.

A strong upward movement has set in amongst Oil shares, in which Paris has taken a hand, while *Shell Transports* were the leading feature, advancing from 78s. 6d. to 87s. On the face of it, peace in the Oil War is not yet in sight, but factors are at work to benefit Shell Transports, and it is believed that this company has practically acquired the Red Sea Oilfields. The latest news from the *London and Maikop Corporation* is that Well No. 4, plot 411, has been spouting again, and these shares—as, in fact, most of the better-class Maikop shares—are improving, partly for the reason that the commencement of working by the *Maikop Pipe Line* is now in sight, these shares having, moreover, improved to 19s. London and Maikop are now quoted practically at par, and *Maikop Spies* are very strong, on the news that Well No. 1, plot 533, on being re-opened, yielded 4,000 poods in an hour. The prices of the leading Maikop shares, as well as other active shares, can be seen from the following table:—

	Share.	Amount Paid.	Highest 1910.	Price, Dec. 21, 1910.	Price, Jan. 17, 1911.
Anglo-Maikop	£1	15/-	1 29-32 pm.	4 pm.	⅜ pm.
Black Sea Pref.	£1	£1	2⅛	1 1-16	1⅛
London and Maikop Corp.	£1	6/-	⅜ pm.	⅛ dis.	par.
Maikop Gen. Trust	£1	£1	2⅛	2⅛	1⅛
Maikop Midland	£1	10/-	⅛ pm.	⅜ dis.	⅛
Do. Pipe-Line	£1	£1	1⅜	13-16	19/6
Do. Premier	£1	£1	2⅛ pm.	13-16	13-16
Do. Spies	10/-	10/-	25/-	12/-	14/-
Do. Valley Pref.	£1	15/-	11/10½ pm.	⅜ dis.	⅜ dis.
Anglo-Roumanian Pet.	£1	£1	1⅛	⅛	⅛
Baku (New)	10/-	7/-	8/9	2/3	4/-
Burmah	£1	£1	6⅜	3⅛	4⅛
California Oilfields	£1	£1	6 3-16	4⅛	5⅜
Commonwealth Pref. Ord.	£1	£1	19/-	9-16	⅝
Eastern Pet.	£1	£1	2⅛	1 11-16	2
Egyptian Oil Trust "A"	£1	£1	5⅛	4⅛	5⅛
Franklin Oil	$5	$5	1 9-16	⅝	⅝
Gen. Oil and Fin.	£1	10/-	8/3 pm.	⅛ dis.	3-16 dis.
G. M. Oilfields	£1	£1	93/9	1⅛	1⅛
Kern River	£1	£1	2/6 pm.	12/-	14/6
Lobitos	£1	£1	40/6	26/6	29/6
Mexican Eagle	20/6	20/6	⅛ pm.	19/6	21/-
Newfoundland Oilfields	£1	£1	1⅛	⅜	13/6
Oil Dev. Trust	2/-	2/-	3/-	1/9	2/10½
Pacific Oilfields	£1	£1	33/1⅛	⅜	15/-
Schibaieff Pets.	£1	£1	5/6	6d.	6d.
Shell Transports	£1	£1	106/-	78/6	87/-
Spies Petroleum	10/-	10/-	36/-	27/6	31/6
Red Sea Oilfields	£1	£1	—	1⅛	2

It will be seen that most of the Maikops are distinctly better, including *Maikop Premier, Maikop Valley Prefs., Maikop Spies*, and *Maikop Midland*. Some of the best shares are, of course, *Black Sea Prefs.* at 1 5-16, while the *Ordinary* are also coming into demand, and I should think that, as soon as the pipe-line is working, there will be a general levelling-up of Maikop prices. *Anglo-Roumanian Petroleum* are still cheap, while a firm feature has been *Mexican Eagles*, which are now up to 21s. buyers. *Oil Development Trust* shares have further advanced to 2s. 6½d., on the formation of a subsidiary concern, the *Grosny Oil Company*, and there seems to be reason for anticipating a further advance. This market will now require very careful watching, as, whenever the additional "Bull" point of the settlement of the Oil War comes off, prices will move up by leaps and bounds.

DOUGLAS AND OLIVER.—The directors of Douglas and Oliver, Ltd., have declared an interim dividend of 5 per cent. (being at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum) for the quarter ended 31st ultimo.

NEW ISSUE.

The Standard Union Trust Company, Ltd., has been formed with a capital of £150,000, of which £142,500 is in Ordinary shares of £1 each, the remainder being Founders' shares, for the purpose of financing privately owned industrial and other undertakings, and the formation of Joint Stock Companies to acquire and exploit them; for the provision of capital for, and the underwriting of the capital, of undertakings previous to the offer for public subscription of all or part of it; to act as the Issuing House to approved undertakings, and to provide for their introduction on the London and Continental Stock Exchanges. The directors claim to have at their disposal approved, up-to-date media for securing the necessary advance information regarding any particular enterprise in which they may be invited to invest or otherwise take an interest in, and special privileges are reserved for the shareholders of the Trust, who will be granted a preferential right in underwriting or subscribing the various issues in which the Trust itself will from time to time be interested. The present issue is of 100,000 Ordinary shares, and 50,000 Founders' shares. Given sound and influential management, there should be a prosperous future before the Trust.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

UNITED SERVICE SHARE EXCHANGE.—G. E. S.—Highly speculative. I give you the historic advice to those about to marry—"Don't."

WATER INVESTMENT.—TORCH LAMP.—Do not put any more money into this concern, but rather withdraw what you have already sent, if you can. It is far preferable to invest in sound marketable securities.

UNITED REALISATION CO.—V. O. V.—With further reference to your complaint, I have now heard from the Secretary of the company, who states that he will be pleased to answer your inquiries, addressed to his office, 21, Ironmonger Lane, London, E.C.

DUNCAN FORBES AND COMPANY.—QUI VIVE.—I have still some complaints concerning the system of these outside brokers, and unless I have more satisfactory advices I shall have to deal with them.

INVESTMENTS.—WEST LOTHIAN.—(1) You have not to pay for rubber shares until what is known as the "special settlement" has been granted. No option but to hold, pending a general recovery in the market. (2) From the point of view of investment, I prefer shares with a ready market. (3) Brighton A should rise above 100. (4) An intelligent reading of my articles will afford you the necessary information. ENQUIRER.—I do not edit the advertisement columns, and I cannot advise the proposed investment. You can do far better in the stocks recommended in my articles.

BREWING INVESTMENT.—MAC.—Sell out. There seems to be little hope for such stocks under present conditions.

SMALL INVESTMENTS.—E. P.—I do not care for either Nos. 1 or 2, while there is no quotation at all for the former. Boots Cash Chemists and Maples are preferable, and you can also gain some useful hints from my articles.

£6 INVESTMENT.—MARIE M.—The amount is too small to deal with on the Stock Exchange, and if you go to an outside broker you are bound to lose it altogether. Better put it into the P.O. Savings Bank, where it will, at any rate, be safe, and wait with investment until you have got about £20.

INDUSTRIAL.—A. T. N.—You are right. There are many peculiar circumstances connected with this concern which call for hesitation. If you can get out of paying further calls you should do so, unless, of course, you are threatened with litigation, which would be more expensive in the long run.

CAPITAL.—A fair holding, but you should not put so much money in it. Better distribute the sum over three or four good shares, and thus minimise the risk. Liptons and Randfontein Souths are worth attention. A. E. B.—Never place too many eggs into one basket, and, therefore, instead of buying more of the first-named shares, put the money into others, such as those recommended in my article. The motor cab shares referred to may go better for the reason in question, but they are entirely a gamble.

SHARE MEDIUM.—BERT.—You are right to be doubtful, and the paper has doubtless an axe of its own to grind. In future, buy your shares direct, through a member of the Stock Exchange.

THREE HOLDINGS.—J. W. H.—I do not think much of either, and advise you to take an early opportunity of getting rid of them, and re-investing in more promising shares.

BANK STOCK.—W. B. (Sussex).—There is a good deal in what you say, but I have a still better plan for you, viz., to invest the money in gilt-edged Colonial Government or British Corporation stocks, standing at below par, so that there is always the prospect of a premium, or its equivalent, on redemption.

EL ORO MINING COMPANY.—MISS E. S.—The last dividend (1s. 6d.) on the El Oro was paid on December 30th. They have just improved to 27s. 3d., and are considered a good investment of the kind. Just now, there are buying orders here for Paris.

PREMIUM BONDS.—FOREIGN.—(1) They are mostly satisfactory, and genuine enough. They pay only a very small interest, and in some cases nothing, so that the purchasers find their chief advantage in the drawings. (2) I really cannot undertake to advise on the various bonds. You had better place yourself in communication with the firm of Foreign Bankers in London, whose address I send you, and who make a speciality of the matter. (3) This foreign firm is known for charging much higher prices than market quotations. (4) Par means nominal value. (5) You had much better invest your money in sound securities, like Home Rails, instead of putting your money on deposit. DOMINO. —There is no mystery about them, but you must not expect to find in them the road to speedy fortune. The great thing is to deal with a respectable firm of bankers. A. C.—What you require has been forwarded in your envelope. SCOTSMAN.—The bonds themselves are genuine, but by dealing with Continental firms you have to pay very much higher than market prices. In future, make such purchases only through respectable Foreign Bankers in London.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—SPECULATING IN YANKEES, V.P.—I do not advise you to deal with these outsiders. You will only lose your money. You should transact your business with a member of the Stock Exchange. L. A. (Carlisle).—(1) I am sorry to hear that you are a loser through McKinley, Alexander and Sons. You cannot have been a regular reader of my remarks, as I had been publishing warnings for a long time before they collapsed. I must leave it to you whether you will join the movement, which means, I am afraid, throwing good money after bad. (2) Outside brokers. You should deal with a member of the Stock Exchange. (3) What you require has been forwarded. SHAMROCK.—(1) All Oil shares should be held, as there is apparently an improvement at hand. (2) Very doubtful, have nothing to do with them. (3) I cannot advise as regards Birmingham brokers, and I send you the name of a firm, members of the Stock Exchange, who are respectable, and upon whom you can rely. B. H.—You say that you have, with various others, been notified that the securities of McKinley, Alexander and Sons have been placed with Mr. C. W. Silversides, to realise on and settle clients' claims, but so far you have received no information. This is the case with a good many others, and it is really time that Mr. Silversides should hurry up, if there is anything serious in his statements. DOUBTFUL (Beaufort).—I do not like the concern at all, and think the certificate is valueless. I should advise you to have nothing to do with the matter. The document is returned. F. A. H.—Both are "blind pools" under high-sounding names. Have nothing to do with them, or with their promoters, or you are bound to lose your money. MYTH.—The people in question are outsiders; have nothing to do with them, or others of the same kidney. An inside broker will deal with you on the terms in question as long as you can give him satisfactory financial assurances. Any of the financial dailies would answer your purpose.

PUBLISHING SHARES.—M. C. M.—This kind of investment is not safe, and I strongly advise you rather to be satisfied with 5 per cent. in Home Railway stocks, which are sound, and are also likely to improve in value.

INVESTMENT v. BANK DEPOSITS.—S. E. S. (Bristol).—Those who advise you are quite correct. It is far preferable to invest in sound securities than merely put the money on deposit, although the Bank you mention is quite safe. You can, however, get a far better return in Home Railway Preferred stocks, which are also easily saleable. I gave a list in JOHN BULL of December 31st. You can obtain a yield of 4½ per cent. in Caledonian Preferred, and 4¼ per cent. in North British Preferred, but your stockbroker will be able to advise you, and you have merely to ask him for his opinion.

HOME RAILS v. BANK SHARES.—LENTER.—Yes, in view of the increased dividends about to be announced, you can obtain a return of about 5 per cent. in thoroughly good Home Railway stocks, including the two mentioned by you, and they yield you more than the Bank shares. Have nothing to do with the outside brokers in question, but deal only with members of the Stock Exchange, who will be able to advise you.

BANK AND HOME RAILWAY SHARES.—READER FOR TWO YEARS (St. George's Road).—London and South-Western Bank shares yield about £4 8s. per cent., and are first-class, but you can buy Home Railway Preferred shares to yield you 4½ per cent., with reasonable safety. Do not touch Consols, as the yield is too small. You should buy through a member of the London Stock Exchange, and I have forwarded what you require.

KYNOCH'S MORTGAGE DEBENTURE STOCK.—BOSS-SHOT.—This Debenture Stock (2) is not quoted on the London Stock Exchange. You can find the quotation in a leading Birmingham paper, say, "Birmingham Post." (1) This company is going downhill, and I think it would be advisable to sell, and re-invest in other stocks. Just now, you can obtain 4½ to 5 per cent. in sound Home Rails, which are, moreover, likely to improve in capital value.

MISCELLANEOUS.—H. B.—(1) Beverleys are a good holding amongst low-priced tea-cum-rubber shares. (2, I do not like these. (3) Very promising amongst Canadian land shares. (4) Rather less so, unless more favourable news comes to hand regarding crop prospects in Argentina. (5) Yes, South-Western Railway Deferred are an excellent purchase amongst Home Rails.

CHANNEL COAST AND MEDITERRANEAN RESORTS.—ESSENSEE.—Highly speculative. I do not recommend the investment, nor can I see how the shares can be called guaranteed, as the "guarantee" is merely that of another similar concern. Same reply to A. H. (Leeds), and M. F.

FIVE STOCKS.—KNOT.—Of the stocks mentioned, I like best Standard Bank of South Africa (1), but even these have already had a big rise. If you do not mind the extreme improbability of calls being made, London bank shares would form a good purchase. I am also still very much in favour of Home Railway stocks, in connection with which latest developments foreshadow continued progress.

J. AND J. YARDLEY.—GARUETBANK.—This concern was reconstructed in April, 1910, under the title of the Old Wolverhampton Breweries, the capital being £30,000, in £1 shares, with £71,000 4½ per Cent. Debentures, and £120,000 4 per Cent. "B" Debentures. The secretary is Mr. A. J. Hall, 3, Crosby Square, London, E.C., and you should write and ask him how you stand in the matter.

£100 FOR INVESTMENT.—MORFA.—Thanks for your flattering remarks. You will be able to select the kind of investment you look for from an article on Redeemable Stocks in next issue. These are all quite safe, give a satisfactorily yield, and have plenty of margin for capital appreciation.

BEAUFORT MOTORS.—W. P.—The company's office is now at 55-59, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C., and the secretary is Mr. A. E. Oakley; but in January, 1909, Mr. R. H. Horne, Norfolk House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., was appointed receiver and manager. You must, therefore, apply for information to the latter gentleman. The other company has now been reconstructed as the Southern Gold Mines, but I cannot tell you yet how it is faring.

*INVESTMENT IN RAILS.—CAN. PACS.—The shares are of $100 (£20), but they have now advanced to 210½—a rise of 10 points having taken place last week on the increase in the dividend and bonus from 8 to 10 per cent. A rise or fall is per share, not per cent. The yield at present price would be cent. per cent. per annum. Commission is unimportant. Your broker would give you all further information.

*STOCKBROKER.—E. F. A. (Deal).—The firm you mention is not suitable. I will send you name of a respectable broker, member of the Stock Exchange, ns requested, if you forward your full address.

NOTE.—The items marked with an asterisk (*) are answers to correspondents of *Mrs. Bull*, who conformed to the conditions laid down in JOHN BULL.

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

COMMERCIAL UNION INSURANCE CO., LTD.—T. D. (Battersea).—We have your letter with the policy and other enclosures, which are returned. We do not see that you have any legitimate ground for complaint. The company had a right to refuse to renew your policy; they considered it an unsatisfactory risk, and they therefore determined to discontinue it.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE.—J. E. N.—Yes, quite safe and reliable.

NEW YORK LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—ANXIOUS (Cardiff).—We do not think you will get all that you were promised, but you will get a good part of it.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—W. S.—We can only assume that they took over the business of the company you name because they thought it would pay them to do so.

SCOTTISH LEGAL SOCIETY.—T. M. B. (Leicester).—We think so.

CAR AND GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION.—J. B. (Brighton).—We have said more than once that the Car and General Insurance Corporation has no connection whatever with the Law, Car and General Insurance Corporation of indifferent reputation. We cannot understand why the latter office, which was established some years after the Car and General, should have been permitted by the Board of Trade to take a name certain, owing to its similarity, to give rise to mistakes, but the necessary authority was got.

MUTUAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT AND ACCIDENT CO.—SHAREHOLDER (Liscard).—We are in entire agreement with you in your criticism of the management of the affairs of this company. We agree that the figures of the last balance-sheet issued are extremely unsatisfactory, and show no adequate provision for liabilities. And we agree that it is significant that the Actuary's report has not been published, and can well understand that you would gladly make a present of your partly-paid shares to anyone who would undertake the responsibility, but we are afraid you will not find anyone who values them sufficiently highly to do so.

GENERAL INSURANCE CO.—PROSPECT (Birmingham).—We have no information.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—F. G. (Coventry).—This company and the other one you name are under the same management. They have been established many years, and, financially, are very strong.

POSITION OF CO.—J. W. B. (Whitehaven).—The company you name is financially strong. Its rate of expenditure is high, and opinions differ as to its policy, but there is not the slightest room to fear that it will not carry out its engagements, and we see no reason why you should accept a surrender value in the circumstances named.

TERMS OF POLICY.—ONE IN DOUBT (Bristol).—The terms seem high, but we do not think they are out of the way, and we advise you to continue the policy.

BRITISH EQUITABLE CO.—BIRMINGHAM (Balsall Heath).—We should prefer another selection.

PURCHASE OF ANNUITY.—F. H. S. (Birmingham).—Your money, at your ages would give you an immediate joint life annuity payable yearly of £60 per annum, or £59 6s. payable half-yearly, or £58 11s. 4d. payable quarterly.

FIRST DUTCH CO.—J. B. (London).—The answer is in the affirmative.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF WAREHOUSEMEN, TRAVELLERS, AND CLERKS.—H. F (Harrow).—It is a well managed institution.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

The article on "How to Lessen Railway Accidents" which appeared in our issue of January 7th has brought us a large number of interesting letters which we regret space does not allow us to publish. The following, from a workman entitled to express an opinion upon the subject, will be read with interest:—

Referring to the recent article it seems to me that the author, R. L. Bealy-Smith, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., does not conclusively prove the need for trained engineers, or, what he really means to say, the substitution of engineers holding a certificate gained by Board of Trade, or similar authority, examinations, for the proven, efficient, capable men at present in charge of locomotives.

Now, no matter how highly-trained an engineer may be, no matter what certificates he may hold, he must, whilst in charge of a locomotive, always remain simply a "driver," for this important reason:—"*His engines are out of sight.*" To quote the article: "He must be an engineer, he must know his engines inside and out, theoretically and practically," etc. Practical knowledge is certainly essential, but what on earth is the use of all that theoretical knowledge to a driver who *cannot see his engines*, and who *could not get to them if he would?* After *experience* has been gained, driving a locomotive is accomplished mainly by the senses of touch and hearing—meaning to say, that the driver knows the exact position of all valves, cocks, levers, etc., and just how much to open or shut them by sense of touch; he listens constantly to the rhythmic beat of his engines and knows immediately when all is not well. His eyes are required only for momentary glances at different gauges. As a matter of fact, sir, he has to do these things so, for it is generally admitted that he sometimes looks at the track ahead. The moment his attention is attracted from that rushing steel road may be the moment of accident. Therefore, of what benefit would his superior knowledge be, supposing he had to be trained in higher mechanical lore, if he had no time or attention to spare for the use of that learning? The ability of the present drivers to negotiate curves, points, signals cannot, surely, be seriously and sanely contested, though to read the article in question, so it would seem.

Again the article: "Perhaps two seconds' thought is a second-and-a-half too long."

I tell Mr. Smith there is not a fraction of time lost, that the actions taken by a locomotive driver to protect his passengers' safety, and incidentally his own, are made at precisely the moment the imminence of an accident arises. These actions are mechanical, they require no thought and no amount of theory will bring your drivers to that state of perfection which is only gained by years, aye, scores of years, of constant and practical intimacy with the working of a locomotive under all sorts of conditions.

If actions to prevent danger are taken instantaneously and mechanically, as they really are, what more would your theorist do? Perhaps in the case of a failure of the signalling department, he—at the time of the accident his brain being able to "cerebrate" with celerity—would have time to calculate the precise number of pounds pressure per square inch at which the opposing bodies would meet. Of course that would be of interest at the resultant inquest.

Sir, in the absence of one more able, would you spare a corner of your paper for this defence of that most splendid body of men—the locomotive drivers of England?

Roller-skating shows no sign of losing popular favour—judging from the carnival at the Finsbury Park Rink on January 12th, when a great number of its exponents, in artistic and frequently costly fancy costumes, disported themselves, most of them exhibiting a very high degree of proficiency in their art. John and *Mary* found excellent representatives in Mr. Watson and Miss Barnett respectively—no carnival is now complete without our prototypes! The management are to be congratulated upon the efficiency of the arrangements for the comfort of their patrons.

"PLAIN POLITICS FOR PRETTY WOMEN,"

By HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, M.P.

For the Second Instalment of this interesting series, see this week's

"MRS. BULL."

THE ARMY—FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT.

By Allan Sutor.

Military Authors.

Although military works written by our "experts" do not convey much, their wonderful titles are frequently a source of valuable information. One or two deserve special mention. One is of a book recently written by General Sir Henry Brackenbury. The General was 25 or 30 years in the Service, and the book is entitled "Memories of my Spare Time." In this work the author carefully explains that his mind was kept from rusting by writing for the Press. He says, "It brought me into contact with superior minds." It reminds one of another work entitled "Hurrah for the Life of a Sailor," by Admiral Sir William Kennedy. This work informs the world of the splendid time the gallant Admiral had, shooting wild duck on the Coast of South America.

Mr. Haldane's Reforms!

A Royal Commission once declared that "the possession of mental faculties, disciplined and developed by intellectual training, must greatly enhance the individual value of any officer employed in His Majesty's service; while, on the other hand, no person would be fit to hold a Commission whose educational acquirements were not sufficient to enable him to maintain an ascendancy over those he would be called upon to command." This was in the year 1868. For the first time in 35 years, a batch of 250 schoolboys has recently been admitted to Sandhurst and Woolwich without having to undergo the prescribed final examination. The Foot Guards and the Cavalry are accepting for the commissioned ranks boys who refuse to undergo any examination. These lads are provided with a couple of horses at the public expense. They are, therefore, well able to hunt and to play polo.

More Hypocrisy.

The Home Secretary places a priceless value on British blood. A single drop of this particular quality of blood is so valuable that, not to waste it, is to want it badly. This explains why the Army was reduced by 20,000 men, also why so many soldiers are deprived of the opportunity of earning pensions—it was in case they might desire by any chance to shed their precious blood on behalf of their country! The defence of the Home Secretary is equally characteristic. He defends the police vigorously, and doesn't even suggest that he himself was present at any time during the progress of the Battle of Stepney. But the Home Secretary is not the only offender in this respect. When Mr. Haldane was attacked because of the appointment of General Ian Hamilton to Malta, his defence was, "Can you imagine General Ian Hamilton accepting any appointment that is not an honest one?" General Sir John French also adopted this particular method. When replying to certain criticisms directed at those responsible for the last Army Manœuvres, General French spoke to the effect "Standing as I do for the whole Army, I call these criticisms scandalous"! They all get behind and take cover under their various shows and shams.

Officer in Debt.

Many officers have a hard struggle to make ends meet. The wonder is that so many succeed. The case of an officer who was recently sued for payment of a debt is far from being a common occurrence. Generally, the financial failures disappear or commit suicide rather than face publicity. One seldom hears of their many difficulties. Nothing is more to their credit. But it would be greatly in the interest of the public if those difficulties were more frequently brought to their notice.

Great Scot and Great Scarboro'.

Scarboro' would not be a suitable place for an enemy to land. This was clearly brought out during a discussion which took place at a meeting of the Town Council of Scarboro'. It was clearly laid down by several high military experts that heavy gun-firing was an intolerable nuisance; that the concussion would break the glass of the new floral hall; that it would shake the nerves of invalids and convalescents; and that visitors are often deprived of their luncheon through being unable to pass home along the sands when firing has been unexpectedly commenced.

How long is it since Your salary was raised?

A Question to every Business Man—Clerk, Salesman, Traveller, Book-Keeper, or Manager.

Just think for a moment how long it is since your salary was raised, how long since you received any promotion.

Is it longer than you like? Have you worked hard and earnestly, but found your efforts go unrecognised and unrewarded?

Well, how much have you *learnt* during that time? How much do you know of the work outside your own department? Because to-day it is not mere hard work that brings success, half so much as *general* ability, the power to fill any position that offers. It is the all-round man who succeeds to-day, not the man of one job, who is denied promotion because he must wait to step into the shoes of the only man he can follow, the man *directly* above him. "All-round" knowledge is the knowledge that brings promotion.

What then is this "all-round" knowledge? It is the knowledge that the manager has to possess, that every successful man has had to obtain before he could achieve success.

One way to get it is to spend your whole life experimenting with your problems and finding out your own solutions. That may mean success when you are seventy or eighty years of age. Another way is to benefit by other men's experience. That means success when you still can enjoy it and not a problematical success when you are too old to care.

How You Can Obtain It.

This way lies in the possession of a copy of the "Business Encyclopædia," the most valuable asset that any business man could have. To show the subjects the work covers, it tells all about Book-keeping, about drawing up balance-sheets, studying profit and loss accounts, figuring depreciations, or working time-keeping systems, about income tax claims and abatements, company law, how to form a company or to wind one up, cheques, promissory notes, and bills, insurance and assurance, the formation and organisation of a business, selling schemes and advertising, management of salesmen, and thousands of other subjects—everything in fact that could possibly occur in business life to-day.

An Intensely Practical Book.

All these subjects are explained as they actually work out in practice, not as they ought to be in theory, and they are explained by the results of the actual practice that has proved so successful for the successful business men who have written about them. These men include:—

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With these men many others have co-operated, representing every branch of business, and between them dealing with every possible contingency of modern business life. If you were promoted to another position to-morrow, you would have to solve no problem that you could not find answered in the "Business Encyclopædia."

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Whether you are a clerk or a cashier, a canvasser or a commercial traveller, a shopkeeper or a wholesaler, a manufacturer or his agent, a stockbroker or a banker, the "Business Encyclopædia" will prove intensely valuable to you. If you are engaged in selling anything it will help you to sell more of it, and if you have only your own services to sell, it will help you to sell them at a better price, by providing you with the knowledge that will make your services of greater value.

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Two Opinions.

Sir THOMAS DEWAR, Managing Director of J. Dewar & Sons, Ltd.

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A CASHIER'S OPINION.

Mr. L. C. Horsley, Cashier, Marlborough Road, Ipswich: "I find it of the greatest possible assistance to me in my work as cashier to one of the largest manufacturing companies in East Anglia. I am sorry there were not such valuable sources of information years ago. It would have saved me hours of work."

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Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, a copy of the book describing the "Business Encyclopædia."

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.....

DR. COOK TELLS THE TRUTH.—IV.

THE REAL STORY OF HIS NORTH POLE EXPEDITION

TOLD BY HIMSELF.

(Exclusive for Great Britain to JOHN BULL.)

We commenced the publication of Dr. Cook's exciting narrative in our issue dated Dec. 31. Every line of the story breathes the strenuous, sanguine nature of the man. After dealing with his youthful aspirations and struggles to realise them—his yearnings for adventure, his experiences with Peary, as surgeon to the 1891-2 expedition—he starts his story of his much-discussed "dash to the Pole" with an account of his meeting with Mr. John R. Bradley, and his departure in July, 1907, with that gentleman for the Arctic regions on a big-game shooting expedition He had avowed his intention of endeavouring to seize this opportunity to make a personal attempt to reach the Pole, and had provided accordingly. After describing his companions—who, with the exception of two Eskimos, left him on his journey in order to economise food and not to hamper his rapid movement—he tells of his struggles against the grim forces of Nature—his battles with cold, hunger, fatigue, and bitter gales of wind—the wonderful and awe-inspiring optical illusions which beset him—the peculiar Polar shadows and the superstitions connected by the Eskimos with them.

The instalments already published record his progress to the beginning of April, 1908.

In placing before the world Dr. Cook's version of his expedition, we join him in his plea that until he has had a fair chance of showing his side of the case, judgment be withheld.

At times it was impossible to perspire, and the toxin of fatigue, generating unearthly weariness, filled the brain with fag. When perspiration oozed from our pores it froze in the garments, and the warmer portions of our bodies were ringed with snow. Daily, unremittingly this was our agony.

Between storms, through irregular, gustful winds and over irregular, difficult ice, we made slow progress during the first days. After April 3rd there was a period of comparatively genial weather, during which we made long, persistent marches. The ice, which became smoother, was constantly in motion. Giddy at times, we marched until we could go no further, until we were too exhausted to build shelters and simply sank limp behind hummocks of ice.

FOOD RUNNING SHORT.

My boys had the advantage of sleep. I envied them. Anyone who has suffered from insomnia may be able in a small degree to gauge my condition when sleep became impossible. To reach the end of my journey became the haunting, ever-present, goading thought of my wakeful existence.

Beyond the 84th parallel diligent search failed to give any traces of visible life. Lying wakeful in that barren world, with my companions asleep, I felt what few men of cities ever feel—the tragic isolation of the human soul—a thing which, dwelt upon, must mean madness. I think I realized the aching vastness of the world after creation, before man was made.

Our food supply was rapidly decreasing. The pound per day for man and dog reduced the weight of the sledges, but, as a vital rule of food economy, the dogs were also killed off. There were days when the storms cheated us of the day's steps. During these we cheated our stomachs.

From the end of the Polar night, late in February, up to the sleep of April 7th, I estimated by various systems of reckoning that we had covered a distance which placed me somewhat over 200 miles from my goal. The sun, because of clouded night skies, had not been visible before, but now it was seen for the first time at midnight, and it assumed a strange shape; I have described it as a vase of blue fire, from which rose luminous flowers. I have spoken of the distorted faces which leered at us over the horizon. Sometimes in our northward progress these faces laughed, again they scowled. What the actual configurations were I do not know; I suppose two men see nothing exactly alike in this topsy-turvy world.

TRAVELLING BY NIGHT.

Changing our working hours from day to night, we began usually at ten and ended at seven. Travelling by night was now preferable, because the night was bright and the day glitter too strong for the eyes. We increased or shortened hours of travel largely because of the conditions of the weather. Weather conditions also influenced our time of travel. Sometimes we travelled by day, again by night; day and night, days themselves lost meaning to us; there was no Sunday. A little sleep, a pound of pemmican—on this we struggled, staggered, and suffered.

Clouds of steam rising from ice-cracks like geysers assumed the aspect of huge fountains of iridescent fire. As the sun rose in its spiral ascent, the lines of light like quicksilver quivered and writhed about the horizon, and in swirling, swimming circles closed and narrowed about us on the increasingly colour-burned but death-chilled areas of ice over which we worked. Settling amid a dance of purple radiance, the sun, instead of inspiring us, filled us with a sick feeling of giddiness.

Bodily fatigue increased. We breathed the stinging atmosphere of a land of death. It twitched our lungs. The cold knives used in camp burned our hands and cold water seemed hot; all warmth had left life. I realized we were being thrown east by the drift of the ice, a thing against which I felt a chagrined hopelessness. We had spent strength and time in useless twistings about pressure lines and high canyon-like ridges. I felt desperate.

WERE THE OBSERVATIONS INCORRECT?

In my notebook I can read a scrawl made on April 13th, when, after braving an icy blast for days, Ah-we-lah fell over his sled, tears in his eyes. E-took-i-shuk stood near, like a man in a trance, staring blankly at the southern skies—black, gloomy skies. I heard him mutter in Eskimo, "It is well to die—beyond is impossible." So it seemed.

Despite a physical lassitude and suffering which made it painful to move, I took observations in a regular, mechanical way. The much ado since made about such "proofs" never at that time occurred to me or seemed possible. Although I had gone on other expeditions, and had performed scientific work, such a feat as this always meant to me the satisfaction of a spiritual hunger rather than a trophy to be laid before geographers, who never stepped out of the protected circle of their home environment.

I never expected that my accomplishment of the Pole, if I did it, would be regarded as of importance to science.

I want to be honest in this, and right here I say that any observations I took were taken, first of all, for my own satisfaction, to check our line of march. They corroborated my growing consciousness of success. The constant travelling over miles of ice and the enduring of pain engendered in my mind a conviction which no figures could have evoked.

At the time, however, I did not doubt my figures. The thought of inaccuracy never occurred to me. True, I was mentally predisposed to credit a favourable reckoning. Were my observations incorrect? It is quite possible. Analyzing them, and the conditions, physical and mental, under which they were taken, I do not know. I can never tell ultimately.

As a man in a dream, I marched, set camp, ate and tried to rest. I took observations without interest; under those conditions no man could take an interest in mathematics. Eating became a hardship, for the pemmican, tasteless and hard as metal, was cold; the building of a snow house meant physical sufferings. Our feet were numb—it seemed fortunate they no longer even ached.

WHEN I BELIEVED I REACHED THE POLE.

At a point which I calculated as twenty-nine miles from the Pole we paused to rest. Not possessing the strength to build snow-houses, we used the silk tent. While the Eskimos slept I took observations. There we brewed an extra cup of tea, prepared a feast of pemmican broth, thus using an extra quantity of our precious fuel, and ate as much as we dared—still remaining insanely hungry. My heart thumped, and, pursuing our march through the icy vacantness, my imagination peopled the region with glorious things.

(To be continued.)

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A typical Russian Postman. From Riga, one of Mr. Sandow's Russian patients writes after a course of Home Treatment for Liver, Indigestion, Depression, and General Debility: "Am certainly very much better and brighter."

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Please send me gratis and post free Vol. No.....in Sandow's Health Library, together with an opinion upon my case.

Name .....
(Please say whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, Rev., or other Title.)

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.....

Age.... Occupation .....

Nature of Illness or Condition.....
from which relief is desired

22/1/11. *Give further particulars in a letter.*

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

"THE QUAKER GIRL."

The vaudevilles and burlettas of years ago may not have been plays, but they must have been a perfect god-send to "bright stars" who could amuse without the aid of a story. "The Quaker Girl" at the Adelphi Theatre has no pretensions whatever to be a play, yet it affords an admirable vehicle for the conveyance of a vast amount of personal cleverness, ability, and general ingenuity. In how many *plays* by rule of thumb did poor Fred Leslie appear? And yet we would not have missed his extraordinarily versatile talent for anything.

Joseph Coyne is just such another inventive genius as Fred Leslie. He knows his business backwards, is facile, and a born humorist. He is never at rest, and yet he is never restless. His acting soothes, but never satisfies, for you always want more of it. I venture moreover to state that Joseph Coyne dances with a delicious neatness that none can equal on the English stage to-day, and the ease and grace of his movements are marvels of art concealing art. Every difficult step he takes is done with a quiet naturalness that makes you feel that to him—at least—he is doing nothing at all, and this only makes his performance the more remarkable.

But there is too much waste going on in "The Quaker Girl;" not half the experts in the company get the chances they should do. For instance, Gracie Leigh has next to nothing to do, Hayden Coffin, looking younger, sprightlier, and singing better than ever, is a mere shadow in the concern, and these two might well be allowed longer "turns," and the three "high kickers" in the third act knocked out entirely. They are not wanted in the least.

Everybody's admiration goes out to the charm, delicacy, and the pleading individuality of Miss Gertie Millar, who, as "The Quaker Girl," dances divinely, and turns an otherwise insignificant part into the most important "leading lady's" character in the Tanner, Ross, Greenbank, and Monckton medley.

I hear that somebody has discovered a plot for a book in the Adelphi production—of course this accounts for my not finding one—they must have got ahead of me and taken it away before I went there. Oh these early birds, what chances we late ones do miss!

SIR ARTHUR PINERO AND THE SKETCH QUESTION.

I hope it is true! I hear that Arthur Wing Pinero is going to make a fight for it over this present rotten music-hall law question. I saw him the other evening at the Empire, comfortably tucked up in the stalls with his wife, and somehow felt, as he watched George Arliss's amusing little play, "Widow's Weeds," that he was turning over things in his prolific mind, and panning out the best course to pursue.

Apart from the—what shall I call it?—threatening attitude of the theatre managers, and *their kindly consent to become accomplices in breaking the law*—the actors and actresses themselves are placed at considerable disadvantage in performing sketches at variety houses.

Supposing—only supposing, mind you, and just for the sake of illustrating the iniquitous state of affairs as they now exist—Sir Edward Moss takes it into his head to decline to pay Mrs. Langtry for her services after having played at the Hippodrome, as she will do in a few weeks' time? Mrs. Langtry will naturally call upon the authorities to compel Sir Edward to give her the salary due as per her contract.

What can the judge say in these circumstances? He will merely point out that Sir Edward Moss as manager of the Hippodrome, must pay a penalty for breaking the law, whereas Mrs. Langtry will not be in a position to obtain one farthing, as it would be impossible for any judge to decide in her favour a contract that *prima-facie* was illegal and consequently null and void. The only person he is able to deal with is Sir Edward, and Mrs. Langtry might take her case from court to court, the answer to her plea would be the same.

And the power of the music-hall manager anent this question is not limited even here. Say at certain houses your sketch does not "go" as well as it did in other halls, what is there to prevent a manager from coming to you and saying, "Excuse me, but I hear that Mr. Tittletattle is going to inform against me for allowing you to play your show. I'm sorry, but you'll have to take it elsewhere; I can't be prosecuted"?

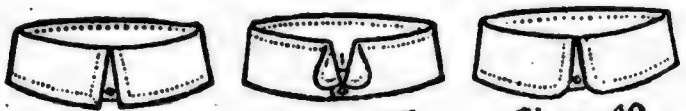
I don't say that any manager is likely to do a thing of this sort—but he can if he likes, and actors and actresses are absolutely at the mercy of informers and variety managers, if they act in their houses, and contracts are not worth more than waste paper.

In the interests of the many thousands it concerns, this undeniably useful addition to the music-halls should be encouraged and not checked, and if Sir Arthur will only fight the cause, not from the author's point of view alone, but as a champion of free trade in the amusements of the people, he will earn for himself the everlasting gratitude of a public that is too vast to be measured, and secure protection for artists who are now beaten back and baffled by the very people who ought to come forward and offer help, in lieu of hindrance, to a cause that elevates, not degrades, their art.

MEASURE any Half-dozen *Summit* COLLARS

stamped the same size, and your will find there is not a 16th of an inch variation in any one of them. This is because ***Summit*** collars are made from specially shrunken ***Summit*** materials. This shrinking process also strengthens the fabric, clears it of all chemical filling, and proves the cloth clean and perfect throughout.

'QUARTER-SIZES' have a real significance when applied to ***Summits*** — It means four sizes to every inch, and every collar measuring True to Size.



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THE MAKING OF SUCCESSFUL MEN.

No. I.—The Value of Home Life.

An Interesting Article which should be Read by Men and Women alike. It strikes clearly the Keynote of the Britisher's "Solid" Success by showing that he makes Home useful Socially and from a Business Point of View.

"Success"—the very word is magical. Apply the adjective successful to any man or woman and they have the "Open Sesame" to every door. Nothing is denied the successful person—society welcomes him with open arms, and the very Fates seem to strive to yet add to his renown.

We know this well enough, but what many earnestly desire to learn is the keynote—that stepping-stone, the corner-stone on which success is built.

Every Britisher has in him the means of building successfully, and it is admitted that no success is so solid, so lasting, so enduring, as that which comes to the British born.

Why?

The answer is clear at a moment's investigation. The Britisher builds from within and not from without. The foundation of his building commences with a sound and wise appreciation of the value of home.

Socially and from a business point of view home, the place you live in, whether it be flat, mansion, or cottage, is of the utmost importance. It gives the keynote to your character, and on its proper arrangement and firm establishment you are judged.

"But," the sceptic will reply, "that is merely a question of good or bad furnishing."

Why certainly, but just consider what this means.

Comfort, Ease, and Affluence.

A well-furnished home firstly gives to the owner a sense of ease, comfort, even affluence. It brings the feeling that success is in the making. Socially it is invaluable, especially for those who are married. How many "important" and really "useful" people you can invite to a well-furnished house, and think what this means when you and they, in the privacy of your own home, have stepped past the commercial world. This is one of the facts in success-building.

Then again to the professional man—the doctor, lawyer, journalist, accountant, architect—and those striving to enter their profession, a well-furnished home is of the greatest "business" value.

These facts are indisputable. "But," says the man with moderate income, or the man who refuses to touch his banking account for such a purpose, "how can I, without heavy expense, change my dull, shoddy home for a home that will be really a source of pride?" With him goes the man who intends to marry and wishes to start a comfortable home without the need for heavy outlay.

The problem has been solved by an ingenious system of furnishing out of income for which we are indebted to one of the best known furniture houses in the West.

They have carefully studied the matter, and although their business is one of the biggest cash businesses in London, have devised a system whereby any person may at once commence setting "his house in order." without the trouble of heavy immediate outlay.

The house referred to is Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, Ltd., of 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.C., and their "furnishing out of income" method will at once appeal to all business men and sensible women.

They say, call at their premises, choose from the finest stock of furniture exactly the articles you require and make a first payment of 2s. in the £ and arrange subsequent payments exactly to meet the requirements of your income. That is all.

Suppose you choose furniture for your house or flat to the value of £50. You make a first payment of £2 10s., the articles are carefully packed, sent home, and arranged by experts according to your wishes. Your subsequent monthly or quarterly payments are arranged exactly as you desire. To the actual cost price of the goods only five per cent. is added for the convenience of spreading payment over one, two, or three years. The system is simplicity itself, and whether the purchase be to the value of £20, £50, £100 or £500, exactly the same simple system applies.

With such a system placed before the public by a firm whose high reputation for supplying furniture that not only looks well, but wears well is well known, there is no need even for the clerk with his £100, £150 or £200 a year to wait longer.

There are of course a great number of readers of JOHN BULL who will be unable to call at Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander's premises at once, and therefore it has been arranged to send a copy of a really interesting furniture book to all who apply.

An Important Book.

This book fully explains Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander's system of furnishing without heavy outlay, and by payment out of income. It also illustrates by numerous pictures many quite original ideas in furnishing, showing rooms ready decorated and furnished.

To secure a copy of this really valuable book it is sufficient to send your address to Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.C.

Such a huge establishment have Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, that they can supply every possible need in furniture, and whether you desire but a few additions to make your drawing room more cosy or a whole flat, house, or mansion of furniture, they are prepared to supply you at a moment's notice. It must be remembered that every article is priced in plain figures, and for the convenience of spreading payments over a period of one, two or three years it is simply necessary to add 5 per cent. to your cash prices. Thus £100 at cash costs £105; £50, but £52 10s., and £20, but £21.

You should certainly take the earliest opportunity of calling at Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander's premises, but if you are unable to call, send your application for the furniture book to the address given. For your convenience it may be mentioned the firm's telephone numbers are 1850 Gerrard and 14299 Central, and the telegraphic address "Wolfhol," London.

The John Bull League.

BRANCH REPORTS.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Temperance Hall, Temple Street, which holds over a thousand people, was crowded on Friday evening, January 13th, when ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor delivered an address on the Army. The proceedings commenced punctually at 8 o'clock, when Mr. C. L. Kay, the Hon. Sec. for Central Birmingham, took the chair. In a forcible speech he dealt briefly with the objects of the League, and urged those of his audience who were not already members to join. That his remarks were well received was apparent by the number of applications which the stewards collected immediately he resumed his seat. Before the meeting commenced the audience had been entertained by a series of selections on the great concert Pathéphone, operated by Mr. E. Hodgkins, of Aston. After the Chairman's speech, Mr. J. Cond gave an excellent pianoforte recital. Mr. Bert Rowlandson, the Birmingham male soprano, delighted every one with his song, "Beautiful Garden of Roses," as did Mr. J. W. Nicholson with a violin solo, and Mr. Sidney Albert in a humorous song and patter. Mr. Sutor, who received an ovation on rising, commenced his speech with a disclaimer that he posed as a military expert, but dealing with the Army as he found it, he held the attention of his audience for upwards of an hour, his speech being frequently punctuated with vehement applause. At the conclusion, the Chairman announced that Mr. Bert Forss, who is making a great reputation in Birmingham, would give some character sketches from the works of Charles Dickens. His portrayals of Uriah Heap and Fagin were excellent, and he well deserved the hearty applause with which they were greeted. One very gratifying result of the meeting was the large number of new members enrolled, and the branch is now in an immensely strong position.

PLYMOUTH.—The first public meeting of this newly-formed branch was held on Thursday, January 12th, at the Guildhall, when ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor delivered an address. As was expected, a large number of soldiers and sailors were amongst the audience, and followed Mr. Sutor's speech with the keenest interest. Before the chair was taken by Mr. Jas. Stephens, an ex-borough councillor of Plymouth, a delightful recital on the grand organ had been given by Mr. J. H. Lucas, Mus. Bac. Mr. Frank Smith having sung the League song, the Chairman called upon the General Secretary to explain the objects of the League, and, judging by the reception which his remarks received, they evidently appealed to the audience, which by this time numbered nearly 2,000. Mr. Sutor was greeted on rising with loud applause, and quickly secured a grip upon the attention of his hearers which he never relaxed. His speech was both amusing and instructive, many of his points being enthusiastically endorsed. In every respect the meeting was a success, and has given the branch a good send-off.

MANCHESTER.—Members are again reminded of a very pleasant social function which will take place on Saturday, January 28th, when a whist drive will be held at Messrs. Lyons' Café, 74, Market Street, Manchester. The accommodation is necessarily limited, and immediate application for tickets (price 1s. 6d., including light refreshments) must be made to the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. F. Wardle, 5, Woodland Road, Gorton.

HULL.—The first smoking concert to be held by this branch takes place to-morrow (Friday), January 20th, at the White Horse Hotel, Carr Lane. All members and their friends will be heartily welcomed, and a most attractive programme has been provided. The Local Secretary, Mr. W. E. Petty, of 96, Woodcock Street, Newington, Hull, will be glad to hear from any readers who are in sympathy with the objects of the League and who have not yet been enrolled.

SHEFFIELD.—A whist drive and ball (to run concurrently) will be held at the Royal Victoria Hotel, on Friday, February 24th. An early application for tickets should be made to the Local Secretaries, 53, Idsworth Road, Pitsmoor, and 258, School Road, Crookes; Mr. T. W. Dey, Pitsmoor School of Dancing, 107, Burngreave Road, Pitsmoor; and Messrs. Crane and Sons, Lady's Bridge. Tickets for the whist drive and ball: Ladies, 2s.; gentlemen, 2s. 6d.; whist drive only, 1s.

(*For Membership Coupon see page* ii. *of Cover.*)

POINTED PARAGRAPH.

THE BATTLE OF BROOKLYN.

(*Joe Coster defeated Abe Attel in a ten-round contest at Brooklyn, after one of the finest exhibitions of boxing ever seen. The fight is described as a terrific one.*)

It was a most terrific bout,
All blows and gore and rattle;
And when Joe Coster won a fight;
Abe Attell lost a battle.

RICARDO.

See next Week's "MRS. BULL." for an amazing article on DENTAL FRAUDS.

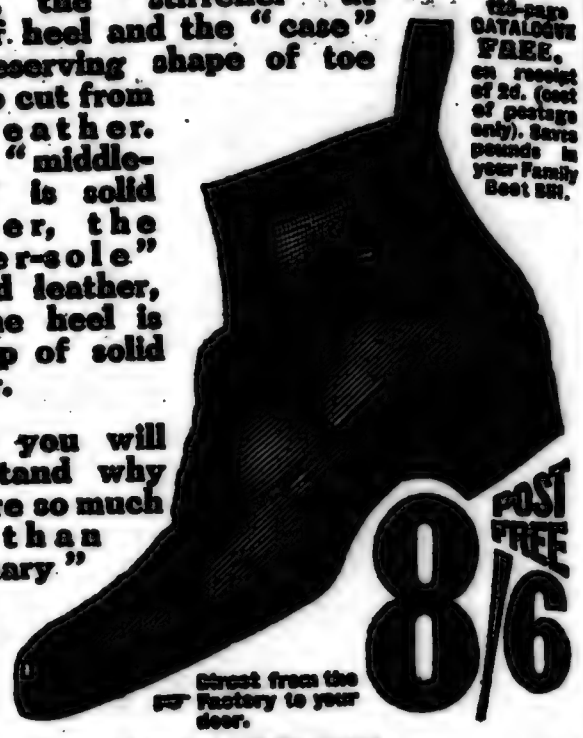
'FOOTSHAPE'

THE ALL-LEATHER BOOT.

This is the most important period of the year for boots. Now, above all times, it is necessary to be well shod. The All-Leather boot is the one that will withstand the effects of rain, mud, frost, and snow.

In building the "Footshape" we start with a good foundation—a solid leather "insole." The "upper" is cut from prime Box Calf or Glace Kid (whichever you prefer), the "stiffener" at back of heel and the "case" for preserving shape of toe are also cut from solid leather. The "middle-sole" is solid leather, the "outer-sole" is solid leather, and the heel is built up of solid leather.

Now you will understand why they are so much better than "ordinary" shop-sold boots.



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DESCRIPTIONS

No. 1617.—BOX CALF BOOT, 8/6.—Splendid Box Calf Uppers, straight golosh, no outside seam, unbreakable jockey back, toecapped (as illustrated), best linen lined, specially selected, hard wearing solid leather sole, sewn. Best make and finish throughout.

No. 1717.—GLACE KID BOOT, 8/6.—Exactly same style and quality as above, but slightly lighter in weight.

No. 1417.—BROWN WILLOW CALF, 8/6.—A magnificent boot. Rich nut-brown shade and warranted real "Willow" Calf.

THE "BARRATT" SYSTEM OF SIZES AND WIDTHS.

GENTLEMEN'S "Footshape" Boots are made in eight different sizes: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 11 (size 12, 1/- extra). Each size is made in four different widths. No. 3 width (for slender feet); No. 4 (medium); No. 5 (wide); No. 6 (extra wide).

Altogether you have 32 different sizes and widths to select from.

If size is not known, send an old boot, or draw outline of stockinged foot on paper. (Outline of boot is of no use.)

WE GUARANTEE PERFECT FIT OR MONEY BACK.

W. BARRATT & CO., Ltd.,

The World's Leading "Boots-by-Post" Specialists

(Dept. 68), Sterling Works, NORTHAMPTON.

WHY SHAVE EVERY DAY WHEN BY USING

DIMONA SHAVELESS SOAP

(Patent applied for)

Shaving can be reduced one half, and in some cases to once or twice a week? DIMONA SHAVE-LESS SOAP, by giving a closer shave and retarding the growth of the beard, leaves the skin in a softer state, and gives a satisfactory feeling that no other soap can attain.

PER PACKET 1/-, from all Stores, Chemists, etc., or post-free for 1/1d. from "Dimona," Dimona Pharmacy, Pembroke Dock. Wholesale London Agents—Messrs. Wm. Sutton.

FREE FOR A POSTCARD!

A postcard sent to-day will bring you within 24 hours H. Samuel's Illustrated FREE BOOK OF WATCH AND JEWELLERY BARGAINS.

Save money by purchasing from H. Samuel direct. Write Now!

10/6 Real Gold Ring set with real pearls and fine quality stone.

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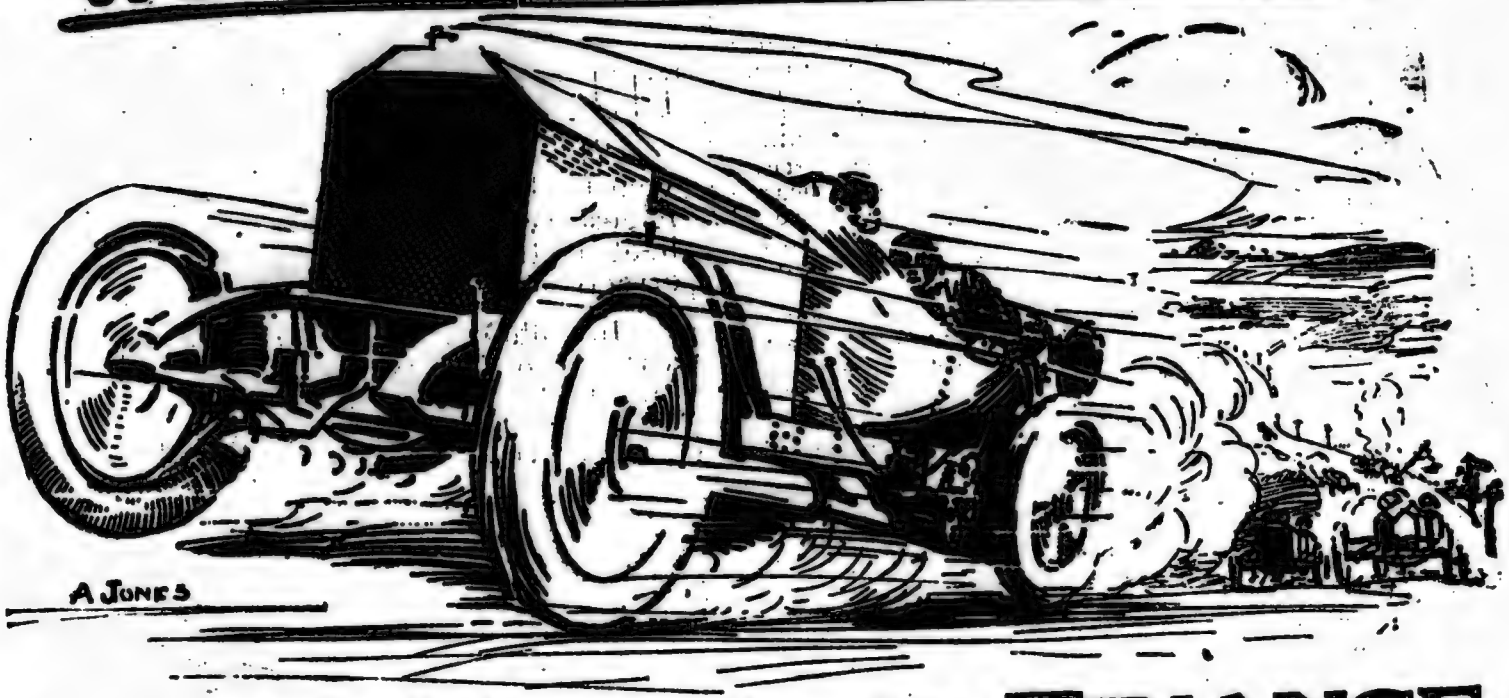

IN THE WORLD OF FINANCE.

Not only have we steadily maintained the Premier Position in the heart of the financial universe, the City of London, but we are rapidly increasing the lead into the year 1911.

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NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE

Has paid away to its clients the unprecedented sum of

Nearly Half-a-Million **£450,270** **Nearly Half-a-Million**

If our supremacy had been achieved by chance or guess-work, we might rest upon the laurels of such a unique record. But keen foresight at the prow wisdom and prudence at the helm, and judgment in command, may confidently be relied upon as heretofore, to bring the golden argosy into the port of success.

We Mean to Make it a Million.

Amongst our fortunate clients who have shared that half-a-million, many started with no knowledge of stocks and shares and with very little capital—some with no more than £6. They owe their success to our particular system which extends to our clients the advantages hitherto enjoyed only by the wealthy.

A Few Pounds Now May Mean Independence for Life.

Perhaps this Call is the Turning Point in Your Future. Will You Allow it to Pass you by Unheeded? Why not take the First step towards Success? It will cost you nothing. SEND THE COUPON BELOW.

Now is the time to turn those Few Pounds into a Handsome Competency.

You may join the happy ones who will share that half-a-million.

This is the First Step ☛

The Soundest Advice, based upon a close inside knowledge of the Stock Exchange is the source of our clients' success.

THE NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE, 22, Great Winchester St., London, E.C.

This Coupon has Brought Fortune to Many.

To the Secretary, National Share Exchange, Gt. Winchester St., London, E.C.

Please forward me gratis and post free your booklet, "The Modern System of Money-Making," and other literature which is a clear explanation of the methods which have enabled you to pay away nearly £500,000 to clients.

J.B. 21/1/11.

Name _____
(State whether Rev., Mr., Mrs., or Miss or Title.)

Address in Full _____

Date _____ (Please write distinctly.)

This and all our other advertisements are copyright.

BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Isn't "Battue" of Stepney a better description?
Won't Sir Oswald Mosley get "fed up" with wholemeal bread?
Did Bombardier Wells say, "No Moir, thank you"?
Isn't a Trumper a useful player to win a rubber?
Does foreign competition make English waiters smart?
If the price of wood goes up, shan't we all be a deal bored?
Isn't Sir John Benn still of opinion that "studs" are dangerous?
Is Mr. Loraine going to confine his ambitions to a Lohr plane?
Is there much "hazard" in the "losing" of a match with Gray?
Isn't the State of Portugal a rotten one?

"Spoiling the Bachelor," is the title of an article in a morning paper. The quickest way is to marry him.

Although someone has spent seven years in drawing a map of the moon, we fear our young people will still prefer to study the genuine article.

A whisky-driven motor is prophesied. Nothing new.

"A judge is all the better for being a sound lawyer," says the *Standard*. Personally, we think some knowledge of law should be imperative.

A vicar confesses that he once addressed a congregation of three, including his wife. But many a wife addresses a congregation of one, including her husband.

"The Witness for the Defence," the new play at the St. James's, ought surely to have been produced at the Court.

In view of the Kaiser's superstitious regard for the number thirteen, it is unfortunate that "German Emperor" and "Kaiser Wilhelm" each consist of that number of letters.

"Comedian's Failure," we read. Would no one give him "a hand"?

"Rainbow Wedding. 37 Brides Married at the Same Time," we read. It should be "Rain-beaux," surely.

The University Boatrace is to take place on April 1st. This is rough on the losing crew.

Reports of 1,200 bicycle thefts have been received by the London police in 18 months. Of those which go off without a report we don't hear.

An American is anxious to sell John Orth's bones to the Austrian Royal Family. But they already have his skeleton in the cupboard.

"Nature herself is never punctual," says the *Graphic*. Does this account for our late summers?

It is stated that the world's timber supply is being rapidly depleted. There will soon be a growing want.

"A Simla Story" is a good heading for a divorce case report. They are all alike.

A boy at Hitchin has been sentenced to three months' hard labour for biting policemen. We don't admire his taste.

Certain Christian Scientists are expecting the early reappearance of Mrs. Eddy in the flesh. We fear they are making a "grave" mistake.

"No seamen are ever really at home on the sea," says Frank T. Bullen. But some of them are very much "at sea" when they're at home.

Summer, which won a race at Gatwick the other day, ought to have been a warm favourite.

The decision of the Post Office to sell buff postcards for the price of the stamp has had a curious result—the stationery trade is moving.

"Nothing is so good as it used to be in bygone days," says the *World*. Our contemporary speaks for itself, no doubt.

The ten million year old dinosaur discovered near New York is supposed, from its size, to have died young. But it "made old bones."

A set of ninepins, said to have been used by George IV., formed a lot at a recent sale. The auctioneer soon knocked them down.

"Poetry is a drug in the market," says Mr. Isidore G. Ascher. Yes, and most of it belongs to the emetic group.

At Acton a woman complained that her husband struck her on the bare shoulders with a piece of holly. Mistletoe goes better with smacks.

"Romance in commerce is by no means dead," says Mr. J. R. Charter. No, but one doesn't call it "romance."

The boy who told the St. Pancras coroner that he "did not know what it was to speak the truth," will finish in Fleet Street.

BOOKS TO BE SHELVED:—
"The Hand of Diane." The story grips.
"Barkers." Made us growl.
"The King's Masquerade." Mystery—on the face of it.
"Round the Clock." Good at times.
"Pages from a Life of Strife." By a struggling author?
"Young Life." The old, old story.
"The Island of Test." The author is certainly trying.
"Echoes of Whistler." Some discordant notes.
"The Art of Tatting." Ta-ta.
"Mediterranean Moods." A story of ups and downs.
"The Impregnable City." A very taking volume.

These Three Boot Styles

are attracting many men to our Men's Shoe Section on the Ground Floor. All are 12/9 a pair, and are kept in such a variety of widths, of sizes and half-sizes that we are able to fit *absolutely* any normal foot. No. 1 is a splendid Brown Willow Calf Walking Boot with a neat round toe. No. 2 the popular open front or Derby pattern boot, with stout winter sole, comes in two toe shapes, round and full medium. No. 3 is a lighter grade of winter boot, made of fine supple Box Calf, medium toe only. These shoes are made for us by an English Manufacturer who is famous throughout the world for the durability of his products. The style and fit are just as excellent as the quality. Better post an old boot to us as a guide for size, and we will send you a selection upon approval. We pay carriage.

12/9 a pair.

SELFRIDGE & CO., Ltd.,
OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.

Ask for
Watson's No 10
A Whisky of Fine Quality, Matured by age alone and of Superb Flavour. Owing to its absolute Purity, Watson's No. 10 stimulates without occasioning subsequent depression. *Obtainable of all Wine Merchants and Stores.*

"The Premier Foods of their Class."
See *Medical Times*, 26th June, 1909.

PLASMON OATS
SCOTLAND'S BEST—"Enormously increased in food value by the addition of Plasmon."—*Lancet*.
4 minutes' boiling only required. 6d. pkt.
"Simply Magnificent."—Sir J. C—, M.D.

PLASMON COCOA
A Delicious Beverage.—"Of much greater nutritive value than ordinary cocoa."—British Medical Journal.
Tins 9d., 1s. 4d., 2s. 6d.

PLASMON IS USED BY THE ROYAL FAMILY.

The great advantages in dealing with the Midland Furnishing Company are not only the superior quality of their goods, but the extremely low prices at which they sell them.

It is an absolute fact that the ordinary prices charged by the Midland Furnishing Co., are cheaper than the so-called Sale prices of many other firms. To prove this statement we ask you to call and inspect the quality of our goods and prices, everything being marked in plain figures; and for the benefit of intending Customers who live in the country, we will pay their fares to town on all orders of £30 and upwards.

The Suite illustrated will give one a slight idea of the original and attractive designs and the splendid value of "Midland" furniture. This Suite is made of walnut which is finished with an antique wax polish, and although at a very moderate price, has a charming effect.

Waxed Walnut Bedroom Suite, as illustrated, comprising large size Wardrobe with bevelled plate door; full Dressing Chest with round bevelled mirror; Washstand white marble top and back and 2 Cane Seat Chairs **£10 10 0**

As above stated all our goods are marked in plain figures at competitive cash prices, but should you wish to take advantage of our Gradual Payment System extending over 1, 2 or 3 years at your option, we beg to point out we do not add any interest or make any extra charge whatsoever.

Carpets and Linos planned and laid free. Country orders packed free and carriage paid.

Our illustrated catalogue entitled "Furniture and Furnishings" will be sent post free on application.

Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd.

15, 17, 19, 21 & 23, Southampton Row,

HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

(Six doors from the Holborn Restaurant and Holborn Station (G.N., P. & B. Rly.), 1 minute from British Museum Station Central London Railway), and 1 minutes from Oxford Street.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag."* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

"L.N.W.R. NEXT TIME" complains angrily of the *G.N.R. Scotch Express.*

S. F. (Rushcliffe) wants us to call his *candidate* a kill-joy. But we know nothing about the gentleman.

J. D. (Radcliffe) pulled off a hundred to one chance with 4s. from *A.K. Dew*, and is not precisely hilarious or overjoyed at receiving only even money.

H. G. H. (Peckham Rye).—We really don't see why you imagine it is inconsistent for a man to ascribe his *failure at the polls* to the Almighty, when on a previous occasion he ascribed his success to the same source. Providence moves in a mysterious way.

"NOT A DUTCHMAN" writes:—"What Jim Crow said in his article was *very, very true*, and the *Dutchman* himself cannot deny it."

S. S. has been out in *Manitoba* sixteen years and has come to the conclusion that the climate is severe, but that, with hard work, obstacles may be overcome. He says there is a good demand for labour, but clothing is expensive, especially for the winter.

G. W. (Blackheath) complains of a football accountant named *Frank Winnett, of Flushing*, who took his winnings like a man for eleven weeks and then failed to pay up.

M. F. B. (Fulham) complains of *Thomas Slowburn, Football Commissioner, of Flushing.*

E. B. O. (Holyhead) complains of *John Coverdale, Commission Agent, Middelberg.* We are making enquiries.

H. S. (Dorchester).—Where is the insult in suggesting that people who are *failures as ships' officers* would be better employed as grocers' assistants? Both may be very decent, honest people, but the same occupation is not always appropriate to everybody.

J. O. (Edinburgh) says that the conditions of the *working man's life* there are "a disgrace to civilisation."

J. A. M. Queen Victoria Street) agrees with Crow about *Paris*, and says "it is a very much over-rated place, the hotels, banks and shops being hovels in comparison with similar places in London, while Notre Dam (*sic*) could easily be put inside St. Paul's." He has heard that the French are famed for cooking, but he never succeeded in getting a decent dinner in their country. And as for their matches. . . . !

MRS. E. (London, S.E.) has spent 22½ years in China with her husband as a *missionary*, and asks us in the interest of fair play to allow her to reply to criticisms. But her reply consists only of a misquoted text and an analogy about soldiers. She talks about missionaries having to fight "a strong and cunning foe, who is full of crafty devices." But surely that is not the right attitude to take towards the poor heathen when he is to be rescued from the blindness of his unbelief.

"FAIR PLAY" (Stockwell) disagrees with one of our correspondents about the *Lander Road*, and says it has long been a danger to cyclists.

"A SEPARATED WIFE" is very angry with *Crippen* for alluding to Le Neve as his beloved wife. But, after all, he has paid his forfeit.

G. R. (Hull) complains of *F. Childs and Co., of Flushing.* What a warm place Flushing must be! Scarcely even a straight flush.

R. A. N. (Reading).—Glad you are glad about the *biscuit* we gave you. Try to earn another one.

"ANGLO-CELT" (West Kensington) inquires about *Irish finance in the event of Home Rule.* We can only suggest that he should wait and see.

C. L. (Nottingham) blames *missionaries* for "preaching the different pettifogging details of their own beliefs, which really are of no consequence where heathen people are concerned." We believe in real missions—especially at home. That is why we run JOHN BULL.

W. T. J. (Carmarthen) complains of *George Price, jun.* (*Flushing*), *and Harry Johnson* (*Middelburg*), football accountants.

J. S. (Inverness).—When have *foreign missionaries* ever relieved any "misery" except their own? We note your epigram: *Ne* (Lieutenant) *Sutor ultra crepidam.* But he does stick to his last (pronouncement).

H. W. C. (Redcar).—It is not good policy to prevent a *candidate making a speech.* He may give himself away. "Oh! that mine enemy had written a book" applies no less to his speeches.

A. J. B. (Holloway).—We agree that it is high time to put an end to *railway accidents*, but you do not disclose your plan. Why not whisper it to the Board of Trade?

(*Continued on page* 106.)

Every day more and more men give up using foreign shaving-sticks, because they find, on trial, that the British-made "ERASMIC" is decidedly the BEST.

BRITISH AND BEST.
Trial sample 2d. stamps.
Money returned if not satisfied. What could be fairer?
The Erasmic Co., Ltd., (Dept. K.), Warrington.

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BUCHANAN'S "BLACK & WHITE."

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£25,000 GIVEN AWAY!

NEW SYSTEM OF RAPID MONEY-MAKING.

In order to place before every reader of "John Bull" the Golden Opportunity of acquiring a FREE SHARE in an industrial concern with FREEHOLD LAND SECURITY, arrangements have been made by a well-known firm of Bankers to distribute

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representing **£25,000,** Without any Cost or Liability Whatsoever to Applicants.

JOSEPH LEITER,

who has made several huge fortunes in extraordinary short periods of time. Few men in the world's history have made money multiply itself so rapidly as Joseph Leiter.

It is open to every man or woman to learn how money makes money. No one can become wealthy on the 2½ per cent. per annum interest such as is paid to those who deposit their money with bankers and others, who themselves use it to bring in from twenty to thirty to several hundreds per cent. profit.

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ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

is to write your name and address plainly on postcard, put a 1d. stamp on it, and

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This is an offer made to the thrifty saver, and a CHANCE OF A LIFETIME. It is in no way connected with Premium Bonds or Lottery Tickets. All the Bankers wish to do is to put before 100,000 people an Illustrated and Coloured Prospectus of an opportunity that will produce a fortune.

IF YOU RECEIVE NO REPLY you will understand that the whole of the 100,000 Free Scrip have been applied for.

JAMES R. KEENE

Started his money-making career with a very small amount of money. In a very short while he made £2,000,000.

Readers now have the opportunity of learning something of the same methods whereby Mr. Keene made his money.

So Don't Delay. Apply at Once.

Everyone who wants to make money will be delighted at this announcement. To-day an unprecedented opportunity is given to every reader of this paper to make large profits with small sums, from a few shillings upwards. "Money Makes Money"—so runs the old phrase—and if you possess a spare sovereign you are now given the chance to prove its truth. For, free of all charge, you will be sent to-day full particulars of a system of rapid money-multiplying by which your sovereign may be increased to two, three, four, or five sovereigns, your £5 to £25, £50, or £100, your £10 to correspondingly larger sums, and so on to fortunes. All you have to do is to write to the address given below, and by return you will be sent, free of charge, a Free Share without Cost or Liability.

Remember, 100,000 Free Shares

representing **£25,000** without any Cost or Liability.

In January the number to be distributed is only 10,000

SO WRITE AT ONCE.

WRITE TO-DAY.

Your opportunity is NOW. There is no need to look for an opening: it is here this very instant, staring you in the face.

Don't put this paper down with the remark, "I'll see about it."

Those who say "I'll see" generally "forget." Strike while the iron is hot.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

to secure this wonderful opportunity is to simply write your name and address on a ½d. postcard, and post it NOW.

You can Test the Genuineness of this Offer at once by sending a Postcard to

UNITED SERVICE SHARE EXCHANGE,
Dept. J.B., 2, Army and Navy Mansions,
115, Victoria Street, Westminster,
London, S.W.

Telephones: 5227 and 110 Westminster.
Telegrams: "Ussharex, London."

NOTE—"ONE APPLICATION ONLY IS ENTERTAINED FROM EACH ADDRESS. ANY DEVIATION FROM THIS RULE WILL MAKE VOID ALL FUTURE BENEFITS ACCRUING."

"A PLANTER" (Federated Malay States) says that no Chinese coolie would submit to the treatment mentioned in Lop-Ear's article. Anyhow we refuse to believe that he "lives like a lord," or that our correspondent "never wishes to see a happier life than that of *Javanese indentured labourers.*" Why not become one himself? We admit there are two sides to the question, but neither should be exaggerated.

J. K. (Glasgow).—We should not throw good money after bad *Flushing bookmakers.*

L. A. P. (St. Mary Cray) enquires about *The United Service Share Exchange* (115, *Victoria Street, S.W.*).

R. W. S. (Marylebone).—Don't believe all you hear. We were never "a large subscriber" to the *Salvation "Army."*

J. W. S. (Hull) believed a statement in *Thomas Hayes'* (*Flushing*) circulars, that he deposited £1,000 a week to meet claims. Why believe anything in a stranger's circular? Wanted: a dry nurse.

P. E. B. (Middlesbro') complains of *Ernest Paterson, football commission agent, Flushing.*

A. S. (Clapton Park) sends a warning against *F. Childs and Co., football commission agents, Flushing.*

A. H. (Manchester) enquires about the *National Union of Chauffeurs and Motor Men*, who advertise "Men and Youths Wanted for motor-car driving" and then ask for a fee of 3s. 6d.

H. C. S. (Barnstaple) wants to know if such a firm as *The Chiswick Rubber Stamp Co.* (5, *Mayfield Avenue, Chiswick*) exists?

"ORPHEUS" (South Molton) wants to know of a good *rhyming dictionary.* But surely the time for spring poets has not yet arrived.

"POOR, BUT HONEST," wants "a little space in your valuable book concerning the way the poor people have been robbed in the so-called *GooseClubs.*" Of course there are a good many geese about at this time of year, though many must have perished at Christmas.

"A READER OF 'JOHN BULL'" (Macsteg) puts a problem in simple arithmetic: "If it takes hundreds of police, Scots Guards, and a detachment of the Royal Field Artillery with three Maxim guns to tackle two *desperadoes*, how many soldiers would it take to beat a thousand Germans?" Does he assume that the Germans would be entrenched in houses? Has he forgotten the little poem about:

"One Skinny Frenchman, two Portugee,
One jolly Englishman lick 'em all three"?

J. R. (Jubilee Street) wants to know whether it is true that a large quantity of brains has been collected in *Sidney Street* and sent to Scotland Yard? They would certainly be useful.

J. R. L. (Portland).—It was almost witty of the magistrate to mistake a public-house for a *duke.* We do not see why you want to get him into disGrace.

"'JOHN BULL' READER" wants to know why the *police* should not carry arms? But they do sometimes.

O. C. (Holloway Road) has a "mamed brother" who changed his house and forgot to inform the postal authorities. The result was that his *Christmas turkey* went astray. O. C. exclaims: "Imagine our anxiety on Christmas Day with a large party of friends in the house and only sausages and mashed for dinner. We received the aforesaid bird on Tuesday morning. What shall we do in the matter? Shall we return the turkey and let them hum for the money?" But by this time the turkey has probably begun to hum.

C. G. S. (Wimbledon Park) sent 10s. 6d. four weeks ago to a man called *Stanhope, of Durland House, Rainham, Kent*, in response to an advertisement of Eggs in the *Evening News*, but has not yet received any. They will probably come in useful for the next election.

J. H. (Borose) writes: "Dear Sir,—Now supposing instead of me it was either a child or even an old man they run into, there might have been a case of death, so if *skating* on permanent ways is allowed, why do they summon a man for wheeling his bicycal along the pavement? Hoping you will enlighten me in your columns." Hullo! what's all this about?

C. O. K. (Dalmanntha, Transvaal) informs us that, when the *Duke of Connaught* came to Ramathlabama, "the natives had all been strictly confined in their quarters lest the inadequacy of their everyday costume should offend the eyes of the Royal visitors." Well?

MRS. W. S. (Glasgow) has now been buying tea for thirteen months from the *Globe Tea Stores* (164, *Howard Street, Glasgow*) and is disgusted not to have received the promised bonus of 20s. But what was the tea like?

"THE PIONEER OF JOHN BULL" (Theale) sends us a notice about an *overcoat* which was left in the rack of a third-class carriage with "a small piece of blue ribbon in the lapel." He says it is "really sad to think that a man wearing a blue ribbon should be in such a state as to leave his coat in the rack." But perhaps he was not wearing the blue ribbon if he left it in the rack.

L. R. G. (Bognor) we quite agree with you that "a *drink cure* for a Christmas present is the limit of everything," and we are sorry that it is now too late to offer one to Jim Crow.

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

A Tobacco Discovery

Nyasa

Smoking Mixture

Nyasa is unlike all other tobacco—it possesses an individuality of its own. It is unique in the fact that, to British taste, it is the first really successful tobacco grown in Africa. It must not be confused with Boer or other Tobaccos. Equal to the best American growths, yet sold at a moderate price. Gives a cool smoke of pleasing aromatic flavour that burns free to the last. Try it to-day, you will be delighted.

Price 5d. per oz., or in Cartridge-packets of 14, 5½d.

NYASA Cigarettes

3d. per packet of 10

If you have any difficulty in obtaining NYASA Smoking Mixture or Cigarettes, send a postcard to the manufacturers for addresses of the nearest tobacconists who sell it. Made solely by

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Don't Wear a Truss

STUART'S PLAS-TR.-PADS are different from the painful truss, being made self-adhesive purposely to hold the rupture in place without straps, buckles or springs—cannot slip, so cannot chafe or compress against the pelvic bone. The most obstinate cases cured in the privacy of the home. Thousands have successfully treated themselves without hindrance from work. Soft as velvet—easy to apply—inexpensive. Process of cure is natural, so no further use for trusses. We prove what we say by sending you Trial of Plapao absolutely FREE. Write name on coupon and mail TO-DAY. Address—

STUART PLASTER-PAD CO. (Dept. P), 66-67, Shoe Lane, LONDON, E.C.

Name.....

Address .....

After your business try a

MUSTARD BATH

A hot bath to which is added a couple of tablespoonfuls or so of COLMAN'S MUSTARD

S.H.B.

Consumption Can be Cured

AT LAST A REMEDY HAS BEEN FOUND THAT CURES CONSUMPTION.

Dork P. Yonkerman, Discoverer of The New Cure for Consumption.

Marvellous as it may seem after centuries of failure, a remedy has been discovered that has cured the deadly Consumption even in the advanced stages of the disease. No one will longer doubt that Consumption can be cured after reading the proof of hundreds of cases cured by this wonderful discovery—some after change of climate and all other remedies tried had failed, and the cases had been pronounced hopeless of cure. This new remedy has also proved itself effective and speedy in curing Catarrh, Bronchitis, Asthma, and many serious throat and lung troubles. In order that all in need of this wonderful produce of science may test its efficacy for themselves, a company has been formed to give it to the world, and a Free Trial Treatment can be obtained by writing the Dork P. Yonkerman Co, Ltd., (Dept. 330) 6, Bouverie Street, London, E.C., England. Send no money, simply mention this paper, and ask for the Free Trial Treatment. It will be sent you by return mail, carriage paid,

ABSOLUTELY FREE

Don't wait if you have any of the symptoms of Consumption, if you have Chronic Catarrh, Bronchitis, Asthma, pains in your chest, a cold on your lungs, or any throat or lung trouble, write to-day for a free trial treatment and book of instructions and cure yourself before it is too late.

BRONCHITIS

Asthma, Nasal Catarrh, and Blood-Spitting.

CURED AFTER 30 YEARS.

Mr. J. Churchill, of Dowlish Wake, Ilminster, Somerset, says:—"Nearly thirty years ago I contracted inflammation of the lungs, which left me with Bronchial Asthma of a very severe type, my cough being so bad that people said if ever they heard a 'churchyard cough' I had it. Everyone thought I would never get better, but at last I was induced to try Veno's Lightning Cough Cure and soon found I was on the right track at last, and now, thanks to your remedy, my asthma is entirely gone, and I am at work as hard as ever."

Mr. Churchill.

Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is the Safest and Surest Remedy for

COUGHS & COLDS, BRONCHITIS, LUNG TROUBLES, INFLUENZA, ASTHMA, NASAL CATARRH, CHILDREN'S COUGHS, OLD-AGE COUGHS.

9½d. *A Bottle.*

Larger Sizes 1/1½ and 2/9, of all Chemists. A Special Offer for Catarrh Sufferers accompanies each bottle.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE.

I hereby certify that

the JUNON Hair Tonic and JUNON Hair Stains are absolutely free from injurious ingredients. They do not contain any substance of an inflammable or corrosive nature. JUNON Hair Tonic has undoubtedly a beneficial effect on the hair and hair-roots, and the JUNON Hair Stains produce permanent and highly-satisfactory results.

J. C. MASCARENHAS, Ph.D., F.C.S., K.S.B., Analytical Consulting Chemist, 27-28, King William St., E.C. *June, 1910*

World-wide appreciation proves the value of

JUNON

Hair Tonic

Restores gloss and brilliancy—stops hair falling—nourishes and strengthens the roots removes dandruff—positively makes the hair grow—is a beneficial and pleasant dressing for daily use.

post **1/- & 2/6** free

Two kinds: Greasy for dry and brittle hair; Non-greasy for greasy hair.

Carefully packed

JUNON Hair Tonic may be used in conjunct on with the JUNON Hair Stains; as, while it will quickly restore strength and vigour to the hair, it will not injure the effect of the stains in any way.

JUNON Ltd.

Hair Stain

This is the only permanent and really satisfactory one-solution hair stain—absolutely harmless—perfectly natural tints—easily applied in one operation—defies detection—does not stain the skin.

post **1/- & 2/9** free

Black, Dark Brown, Medium Brown, Chestnut, Golden Chestnut, Light Golden Chestnut. Gold n, Light Golden.

In plain package.

If you wish to restore your grey or faded hairs to their natural colour, send us a clipping of your hair where it is not yet grey or faded—and we will match the stain exactly to it.

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Containing as it does just the information sought and which everyone should know, a similar demand for this work is anticipated as occurred for the Business Blue Book (50th thousand), which had similar claims, and edition after edition rapidly ran out of print.

PUBLISHED BY

CURTIS GARDNER & Co., Ltd., 33, Spencer House, South Place, Finsbury, London, E.C.

RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.
("*Harry Lynx*" *of* THE PEOPLE, "*Double U. L.*" *of* LOTINGA'S WEEKLY, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* THE GLOBE.)

Announcing Results.

A very sensible practice has been followed pretty generally now for some time at the different racing meetings, and cricket and football fields, namely, to announce the results or scores from other meetings or grounds.

Training Reports.

The fact that several minor sporting papers "pinch" or copy the training reports out of others, suggests that they pay for them, so that it is a rare hardship upon the working tout at the various centres.

Who you meet on the Course.

Our racecourse enclosures are daily becoming more and more cosmopolitan, and at the present time we have owners, trainers, jockeys, and bookmakers from every part of the world.

They all have their day.

Just as there is an old saying that "every dog has his day," so truly does every horse, particularly during the jumping season; but it is not their day every day, as the running will confirm.

Annoying Oversights.

Upon a racecourse, and at a price, we can usually obtain practically everything, even to the use of field-glasses, when we have forgotten our own, which somebody is always doing, yet no arrangements are ever made for the loan of umbrellas, in which quite a trade could be carried on. Many a man objects to carry a "brolly" and yet would give anything for the use of one in sudden rain-storms such as we sometimes experience upon a racecourse.

Why, therefore, should there not be a sort of department, just as there is for the sale of race cards or drinks, for the sale or loan of umbrellas, which could be rented out at a mominal charge or sold, whilst the certainty of their return could be ensured by a deposit being made, or the "gamps" could have the name of the racecourse company in their fold and would then not be purloined.

Not Policy.

It is hardly the game when horses belonging to patrician owners are tried, but not allowed to finish in the order they could have done, so that even the usually unreliable reports of the gallop need the appendage that "too much notice must not be taken of the placings." If the big man sets the example of gulling the public, can you blame the little man for emulating him?

Half-Time.

The difference between the professionals and amateurs and their ways is best shown by the half-time scene on a football ground. The professionals, who play Association, invariably leave the field, but Rugby men pass the few minutes on the ground of play in talking, or possibly squatting, and at the most they indulge in sucking a slice of lemon.

Unprincipled Backers.

Bookmakers whose names figure in these pages receive an extraordinary number of applications for business from readers, but, of course, it is not everybody they can put on their books as a customer. This is, of course, a matter for settlement between the applicant and the bookmaker. I am sorry to hear from one firm, however, that they have made several bad debts in small amounts over people who were, apparently, *bona fide*, and may, I hope, only be temporary defaulters. But it is only fair to try and protect the solvent bookmakers from the blacklegs among the backers, just as it is necessary the other way round.

Prophetic.

The tail end of a quiet period, for even Newbury will not produce sport worthy of some of the substantial stakes, and the Berkshire Maiden Hurdle Race of to-day (Thursday) seems a race between the penalised division who are also similarly entered in several other races at different places and, therefore, much depends upon what runs between Shebeen, Throne and Country, and Bagotstown. The turn of BURRA SAHIB must come, and it may be in the Ogbourne Handicap. At Lingfield, SMITHFIELD might win a race in lieu of being merely placed as last, when saddled for the Old Year Handicap, and I like nothing better than ARMOURER in the Selling Hurdle Race, whilst if the horse's connections fancy him, BRIERY cannot well lose the Eden Vale Handicap. WARDSTOWN owes so many people money that it cannot be commonsense to overlook him when treated so leniently in the Weald Handicap.

THE GREAT REMEDY FOR COUGHS & COLDS
Ormbridge's
LUNG TONIC
Speakers, Singers, and those who suffer from Throat Weakness find it SAFE AND EFFECTIVE.
Sold everywhere at 1/1½, 2/9, 4/6 & 11/-
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RILEY'S
Billiard Tables.

Roberts and Gray both made their record breaks on Riley's standard tables.
The RILEY'S Miniature Table is built in exact proportion to the full size, and the game requires equal skill to play. Whatever size your room is, there is a RILEY'S Table to fit it. You can have a seven days' free trial at our expense. Riley's Miniature Billiard Tables to fit on yourown dining table from £3/7/6. The 6ft. 4in. size, £5/5/0, is suitable for most rooms. RILEY'S Combined Billiard and Dining Tables from £13/10/0 to £24/10/0. Prices include all accessories, carriage paid to nearest railway station. *Cash or easy payments.*
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Bert Fry's cheques are the same as cash. Payment for same will be made across the counter of a bank in 50 of the largest towns in the United Kingdom.

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beg to announce that they have books open on
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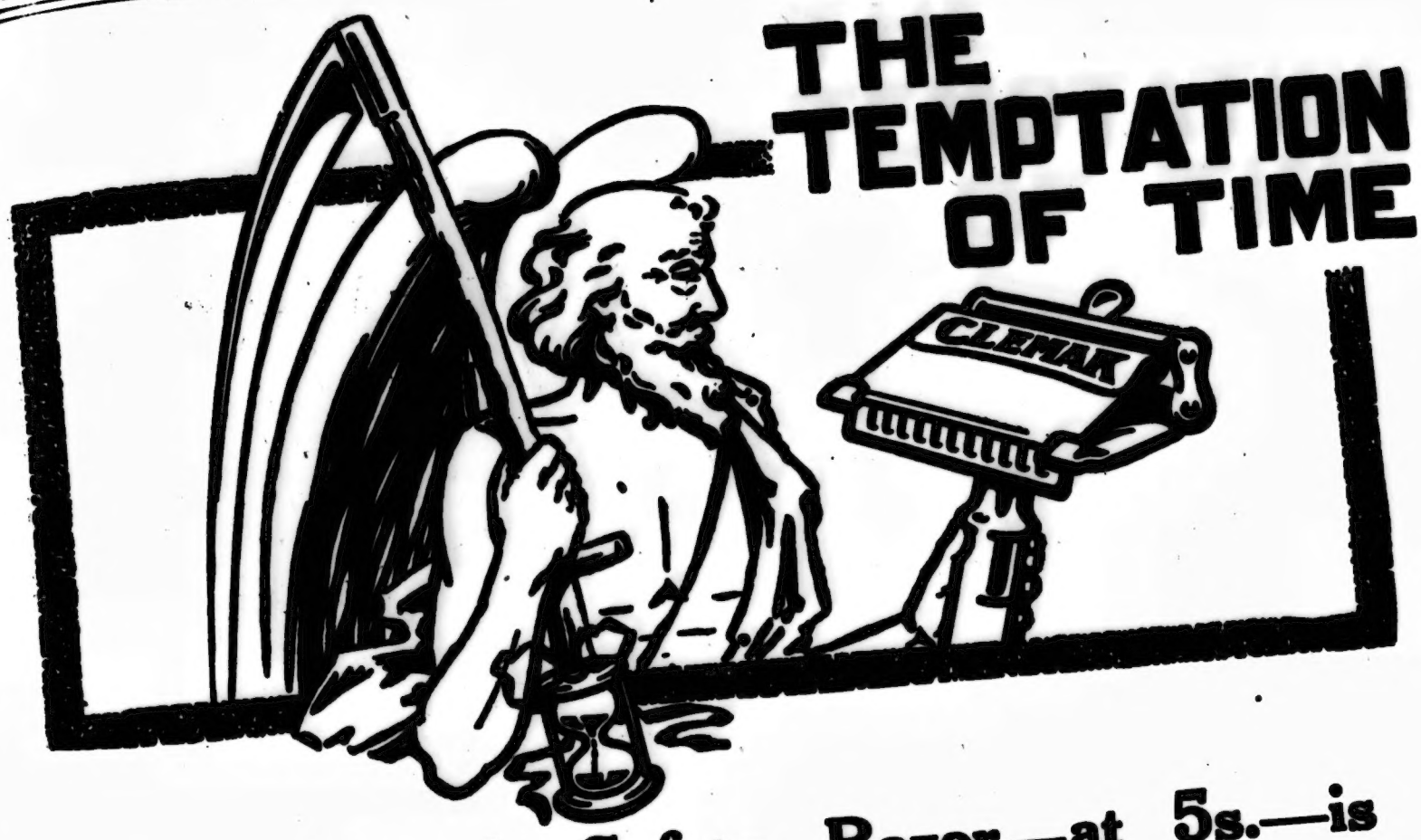
Apply for terms, etc., to FLUSHING, HOLLAND. Id. post-card.



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